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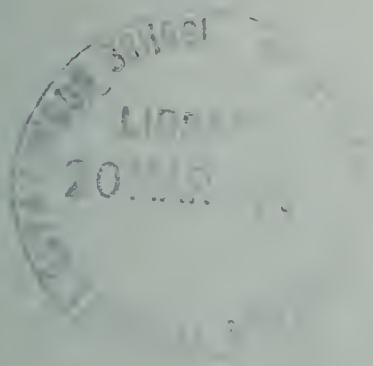
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ANNUAL REPORT
on the
HEALTH & WELFARE
of the
BOROUGH OF SWINDON
1968



JAMES URQUHART, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health,
Borough Welfare Officer,
Principal Borough School Medical Officer.

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B O R O U G H O F S W I N D O N

COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE AND STAFF

as at 31st December, 1968

HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR
ALDERMAN A. J. BOWN, M.B.E.

Chairman: Alderman E. A. W. Beasant, M.B.E. (now deceased)
Vice Chairman: Councillor A. Roberts

MEMBERS

Alderman	H. W. Gardner (now deceased)	Councillor	Mrs. B. A. Lay
"	W. G. H. Hind	"	Mrs. L. R. Lock
Councillor	F. R. Allen	"	H. H. A. Matthews
"	A. J. E. Beck, M.B.E., J.P.	"	G. D. Pembery
"	Mrs. C. M. Christian	"	Mrs. K. M. Tomkins
"	L. Gowing	"	A. J. Wood
"	Mrs. G. L. Knapp, M.B.E.		

TOWN CLERK

D. MURRAY JOHN, O.B.E., B.A.

HEALTH AND WELFARE STAFF

31st December, 1968

Medical Officer of Health and Borough Welfare Officer	JAMES URQUHART, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health	James May, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officers of Health	Juliet Parry-Davies, M.B., Ch.B.
Part-time	Ifan R. Waters, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
	Agnethe Foote, M.B., B.S.
	Brenda Moore, M.B., Ch.B.
	Radha S. Velupillai, L.M.R.C.P., L.M.R.C.S.

Area Dental Officer		R. H. McGowan, L.D.S., R.C.S., B.D.S.
Dental Officer		T. Copp, B.D.S. (Liverpool)
Chief Public Health Inspector		R. A. Law, C.R.S.I., M.P.H.I.A., C.M. & F.I.
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector	1	
Senior District Public Health Inspectors	3	
Senior Meat Inspector	1	
Meat Inspector	1	
Pupil Public Health Inspectors	2	
Dental Surgery Assistants	2	
Senior Health Visitor and School Nurse		Miss C. J. Thorn, S.R.N., H.V. Cert., D.N. (Lond.)
Health Visitors and School Nurses	6	
Part-time Health Visitors	2	
Student Health Visitor	1	
Part-time Nurses	4	
Domiciliary Midwives	6	
District Nurses	8	
Senior Mental Welfare Officer		L. Fry, M.B.E.
Mental Welfare Officers	3	
Trainee Mental Welfare Officers	1	
Home Help Supervisor	1	
Senior Administrative Assistant	1	
Administrative Assistant	1	
Senior Clerk	1	
Assistant Clerks	18	
Part-time Clerk	1	
Rodent Operatives	2	
<u>Health Centre</u>		1 Clerk-in-Charge 2 Pharmacists 5 Pharmacy Technicians (3 part-time) 1 Trainee Pharmacy Technician 7 Clerks (3 part-time) 3 Dental Technicians
Chiropodist	1	
Assistant	1	
<u>The Chalet</u>		1 Supervisor 5 Assistants
<u>Welfare Staff</u> (shared with Wilts C.C.)		1 Area Welfare Officer 1 Deputy Area Welfare Officer 4 Welfare Officers 1 Trainee Assistant Welfare Officer (on two year course at Bristol) 1 Occupational Therapist 1 Handicraft Instructress

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Members of the Health and Welfare Committee of the
Borough of Swindon.

I have much pleasure in submitting my report on the work of the
Health and Welfare Department for the year 1968.

This has been a year of severe financial restraint and it has only
been possible to keep within the target limits set by cutting out almost
all development or expansion of services throughout the department.
Naturally such restriction is frustrating to the staff as the demands put
upon the services continue to increase.

This year saw the publication of the Seebohm Report on the social
services and the Ministry Green Paper on the future of the health services.
These reports will have to be considered with the findings of the Royal
Commission on local government when it is produced next year. One can
but hope that the outcome will be more integrated and efficient services,
although the system in existence seems to suffer more from lack of
resources than from administrative defects.

Since 1966 the population of the Borough has shown an annual decrease.
This year the Registrar General's estimate of the population is 97,840, as
compared with 97,920 for last year. One can expect this trend to continue
as long as people displaced from houses required for slum clearance or
redevelopment are rehoused outside the Borough boundary. It is noted too
that this population trend is linked with a lower birth rate and for the
second successive year the birth rate in Swindon is lower than that for
England and Wales as a whole. The death rate remains fairly constant and
slightly less than for the country as a whole.

Again this year we have had no success in the recruitment of Health
Visitors and the work of this section is restricted to more and more
selective visiting.

The new Maternity Unit at Princess Margaret Hospital became fully
functional during the early months of the year and the maternity beds at
Kingshill Hospital and Victoria Hospital closed down. The new Unit provides
80 maternity beds and 53 special baby care cots. As will be seen from
the section of the report dealing with midwifery the domiciliary deliveries
are now rapidly decreasing. It is proposed to open a General Practitioner
Maternity Unit during 1969 and when this is in operation then domiciliary
midwifery as we know it today will cease.

More and more women are demanding hospital delivery and early discharge home. One must agree that delivery in a hospital where there are all the facilities to deal with any emergency is more in keeping with modern medicine although it may lose out on personal care inherent in domiciliary practice.

Throughout the report I have made notes under the various headings which I hope will inform you of the activities of the department during the year.

I take this opportunity to thank the staff of the department, the Chairman and members of the Health and Welfare Committee and the Enterprise Works Committees for their support and co-operation during the year.

JAMES URQUHART

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS

and

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

STATISTICS OF THE AREA, 1968

GENERAL

Area (in acres)	6,361
Population (census 1961)	91,736
Population (estimated civilian) mid-1968	97,840
Number of inhabited houses	29,542
Product of penny rate (estimated)	£16,500

VITAL

Live births (845 Male, 786 Female)	1,631
Stillbirths	31
Total live and stillbirths	1,662
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	16.67
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	8.7%
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	18.65
Infant Deaths (death under 1 year)	32
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	19.62
Neo-natal Mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births)	15.33
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births)	11.04
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 live and stillbirths)	29.48
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	-
Deaths (all causes) (507 Male, 383 Female)	890
Death rate per 1,000 population	9.1
Area Comparability Factors .....Births 0.93 .....Deaths	1.25

BIRTHS

The live births registered were 1631 (1490 legitimate and 141 illegitimate). The live birth rate was 16.67 per 1,000 population.

The live birth rate for England and Wales was 16.9.

The table below shows the legitimate and illegitimate live births in Swindon with comparable figures for 1967.

The 141 illegitimate births represents 8.6 per cent of the total, as compared with 159 representing 9.8% in 1967.

Live births	Males		Females		Total	
Legitimate	772	(716)	718	(756)	1490	(1472)
Illegitimate	73	(93)	68	(66)	141	(159)
Totals	845	(809)	786	(822)	1631	(1631)

(1967 figures are shown in brackets)

Table of birth rates for last 10 years

	<u>Swindon</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>		<u>Swindon</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
1959	21.29	16.5	1964	21.83	18.4
1960	22.40	17.1	1965	20.69	18.0
1961	21.81	17.4	1966	18.64	17.7
1962	22.43	18.0	1967	16.66	17.2
1963	21.27	18.2	1968	16.67	16.9

Live birth rates per 1,000 population

STILLBIRTHS

31 stillbirths were registered in 1968 giving a rate of 18.65 per 1,000 total (live and still) births, compared with 21.59 for 1967. The 1968 rate for England and Wales was 14.0

Stillbirths	Males		Females		Total	
Legitimate	10	(13)	18	(19)	28	(32)
Illegitimate	2	(2)	1	(2)	3	(4)
Totals	12	(15)	19	(21)	31	(36)

(1967 figures are shown in brackets)

Still Birth Rate (per 1000 live and stillbirths)

	<u>Swindon</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>		<u>Swindon</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
1959	16.8	21.0	1964	19.81	16.3
1960	14.5	19.7	1965	15.94	15.7
1961	23.0	19.1	1966	20.29	15.4
1962	16.23	19.1	1967	21.59	14.8
1963	21.05	17.3	1968	18.65	14.0

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS

The following table gives the illegitimate birth rate in Swindon for the past ten years.

1959	-	3.75	1964	-	6.8
1960	-	4.58	1965	-	7.6
1961	-	4.1	1966	-	8.4
1962	-	5.1	1967	-	9.8
1963	-	6.6	1968	-	8.7

INFANT DEATHS

32 children under the age of 1 year died in Swindon in 1968. This gives an infant mortality rate of 19.6 as compared with a rate of 18.0 for England and Wales.

The table below gives a comparison of the infant deaths in Swindon and England and Wales.

Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births

	<u>Swindon</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>		<u>Swindon</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
1959	23.9	22.2	1964	24.4	20.0
1960	15.3	21.7	1965	16.7	19.0
1961	17.6	21.6	1966	22.9	19.0
1962	21.2	21.4	1967	22.7	18.3
1963	22.5	20.9	1968	19.6	18.0

				<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>
Deaths of Infants under 1 year old				32	37
"	"	"	4 weeks old	25	27
"	"	"	1 week old	18	24

The causes of 32 deaths in infants under 1 year old were as follows:

Prematurity with or without Atelectasis	14
Atelectasis	2
Congenital Heart Disease	2
Other Congenital Defects	4
Infective Conditions	4
Asphyxia	3
Placental Insufficiency	-
Birth trauma	3
	<u>32</u>

I am obliged to the Consultant Pathologist, Dr. R. Martlew, for the following information on the post-mortem results on infants and stillbirths occurring in the catchment area of the Swindon Hospitals in 1968.

Live births (up to age of 3 months)

Prematurity (with or without atelectasis)	25
Atelectasis without prematurity ...	1
Congenital heart disease	4
Other major congenital defects	2
Pneumonia and bronchitis	8
Isolated myocarditis	1
Birth trauma	6
Accidental asphyxia	2
Erythroblastosis foetalis	1

Stillbirths

Intra-uterine asphyxia	19
Birth trauma	3
Congenital defects	3

	<u>Swindon</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
Infant Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births)	19.6	18.0
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births)	15.3	12.3
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live and stillbirths)	29.5	25.0

The scheme for notification of congenital defects is working satisfactorily and brings to early notice families and individuals who may be in need of additional help or advice.

MATERNAL DEATHS

No maternal deaths occurred during 1968.

DEATHS

The deaths numbered 890 compared with 834 in 1967. For 1968 the crude death rate was 9.1 per 1,000 population. When the comparability factor of 1.25 is used, the death rate is:

Swindon	-	10.3
England & Wales	--	11.9

Of the 890 deaths in Swindon, the chief causes were heart and circulatory diseases 334, cancer 179, vascular lesions of the nervous system (strokes and seizures) 116, bronchitis and pneumonia 114. The number of deaths from motor vehicle accidents was 14 in 1967 and 14 in 1968, and the number of suicide deaths rose from 8 to 10 during the same period.

During the year, there were 44 deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus, compared with 52 in 1967.

An analysis of the deaths from this cause in Swindon over the past ten years is given in the following table:

Year	No.	Rate per 1000 population	Year	No.	Rate per 1000 population
1959	34	.411	1964	29	.297
1960	32	.377	1965	33	.335
1961	39	.433	1966	45	.457
1962	34	.372	1967	52	.533
1963	42	.436	1968	44	.449

THE CREMATORIUM

The Medical Officer of Health acts as Medical Referee to the Crematorium which was opened in April 1966.

The number of cremations carried out was as follows:

<u>1966</u>	-	361
<u>1967</u>	-	589
<u>1968</u>	-	812

Causes of Death at Different Periods

Cause of Death	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year
Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	2	-	-
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	22	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	44	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	11	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	11	-	-
Leukaemia	9	-	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	82	-	-
Diabetes Mellitus	10	-	-
Avitaminoses, etc.	1	-	-
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	3	-	-
Anaemias	2	-	-
Meningitis	1	-	-
Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	10	-	-
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	8	-	-
Hypertensive Diseases	23	-	-
Ischaemic Heart Disease	198	-	-
Other Forms of Heart Disease	61	-	-
Cerebrovascular Disease	106	-	-
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	44	-	-
Influenza	4	-	-
Pneumonia	47	1	1
Bronchitis and emphysema	67	-	-
Asthma	4	-	-
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	14	-	2
Peptic Ulcer	8	-	-
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	4	-	-
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	-	-
Other Diseases of Digestive System	7	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-	-
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	9	-	-
Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	1	-	-
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	2	-	-
Congenital Anomalies	7	4	1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	12	12	-
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	8	8	-
Symptoms and Ill-Defined Conditions	7	-	-
Motor Vehicle Accidents	14	-	-
All Other Accidents	11	-	3
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	10	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	890	25	7

of Life in the Borough of Swindon 1968

Age in Years								
1 -	5 -	15 -	25 -	35 -	45 -	55 -	65 -	75 and over
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
-	-	-	-	-	4	7	7	4
-	-	-	-	2	2	19	13	8
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	4
-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	5
1	1	-	-	-	1	4	1	1
-	-	1	-	4	9	17	30	21
-	-	-	-	1	2	-	4	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
-	-	-	-	2	1	1	4	2
-	-	-	-	-	3	1	3	1
-	-	-	-	1	-	6	7	9
-	-	-	-	5	11	39	65	78
-	-	-	-	-	-	3	14	44
-	-	-	-	2	5	15	30	54
-	-	-	-	1	3	8	10	22
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
-	-	-	-	-	-	3	7	35
-	-	-	-	-	3	13	36	15
-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2	-
-	-	1	-	-	-	2	3	6
-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
-	-	1	-	2	1	2	1	-
-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
-	1	-	-	-	-	1	3	4
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
1	1	3	5	1	-	1	1	2
-	-	-	2	-	3	-	-	2
-	-	-	1	2	2	1	2	2
2	3	8	9	24	53	150	264	345

INFECTIOUS DISEASES - NOTIFICATIONS

Disease	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
Acute Pneumonia	16	12	10	9	5
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	1	-	-	-
Acute Polioencephalitis	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	5	1	3	3
Dysentery, Food Poisoning	21	13	23	16	21
Measles	443	841	608	1766	228
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	-	-	1	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	2	8	14
Scarlet Fever	25	44	18	25	38
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis - Pulmonary	34	19	17	35	32
Tuberculosis - Non Pulmonary	20	2	7	4	8
Whooping Cough	16	56	18	42	27
Meningococcal Infection	4	-	2	2	-
Acute Encephalitis	-	-	-	2	2

POLIOMYELITIS

No cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year.

WHOOPING COUGH

The number of notifications in 1968 was 16, compared with 56 in 1967.

MEASLES

There were 443 notifications of measles in 1968 compared with 841 in 1967. The following table will illustrate the epidemic pattern of this disease. (For measles immunisation see page 31.)

Year	MEASLES		WHOOPING COUGH	
	Number Notified	Number of Deaths	Number Notified	Number of Deaths
1964	228	-	27	-
1965	1766	-	42	-
1966	608	-	18	-
1967	841	-	56	-
1968	443	-	16	-

DIPHTHERIA

The last case of diphtheria notified in Swindon was in 1949, and the last death from this cause occurred in 1944.

TUBERCULOSIS

The number of cases notified during 1968 was 54.

Year	PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS		ALL FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS	
	Cases Notified	Deaths	Cases Notified	Deaths
1963	33	4	40	6
1964	32	2	40	3
1965	35	4	39	4
1966	17	5	24	5
1967	19	2	21	2
1968	34	1	54	1

TYPHOID AND PARATYPHOID FEVERS

No cases of typhoid or paratyphoid fevers were notified during 1968.

DYSENTERY AND FOOD POISONING

14 cases of dysentery were notified during 1968 and 7 cases of food poisoning, all were individual cases. I give below a summary of a food poisoning outbreak which occurred during the year.

FOOD POISONING - MACFISHERIES, THE PARADE, SWINDON

SUMMARY OF CASES

5th August, 1968 Information was received from the Medical Officer of Health, Chippenham, regarding suspected food poisoning following a darts match buffet supper at Brinkworth on 2nd August 1968. Twenty persons were said to be affected. Cooked chicken portions from MacFisheries, the Parade, Swindon, was the common food. These were prepared and cooked at the Parade on the morning of 2nd August, and consumed between 11.00 p.m. and 12.00 midnight on the same day. All six guests from Swindon ate the chicken and all were subsequently found Positive Salmonella, Montivideo. Their families remained negative.

- 5th August, 1968 Information from a Mr. A. regarding suspected food poisoning following a wedding reception at an Hotel in Swindon. Of the twenty-eight guests living in Swindon, seventeen were found to be positive Salmonella, Montivideo. One family contact was subsequently found positive. The publican was also found positive.
Cooked chicken portions from Mac-Fisheries, the Parade, was the common food. These were prepared and cooked at the Parade on 26th July, kept overnight without any temperature control at the hotel and consumed on the afternoon of 27th July. Information from the Medical Officer of Health, Teeside, confirmed that other wedding guests who attended the wedding in Swindon were found to be positive Salmonella Montivideo.
- 9th August, 1968 Information received from a Mr. B.; he and a relative both ate cooked chicken from MacFisheries, the Parade, Swindon, on 7th August and were ill afterwards. Both were subsequently found Positive Salmonella Montivideo.
- 13th August, 1968 Notification from Victoria Hospital. A Mrs. C. admitted with severe food poisoning. Had purchased cooked chicken from MacFisheries on 8th August. (Salmonella Montivideo). Two family contacts were subsequently found positive.
- 19th August, 1968 Information from the Medical Officer of Health, Winchester. Outbreak of food poisoning traced to cooked chicken from MacFisheries, Winchester. Salmonella Montivideo isolated from raw chicken.
- 23rd August, 1968 Notification of food poisoning from general practitioner, a Mr. D. purchased cooked chicken from MacFisheries, the Parade, on 9th August 1968. (Salmonella Montivideo).

SUMMARY OF ABOVE ACTION

On 5th August 1968, specimens were requested from all thirty-six staff at MacFisheries, The Parade, Swindon. There is no interchange of staff between branches.

Swabs taken of working surfaces and specimens of raw and cooked chicken sent to Laboratory - all these were reported negative. Subsequently swabs taken of twenty more chickens were examined and all found to be negative.

Eight members of staff were found positive for Salmonella Montivideo, and the sale of cooked chicken was stopped.

Detailed investigation of the methods of food handling and cooking were made, and recommended alterations were put into effect. The shop was recently built, but was not designed for cooking chickens. The method of handling chickens was such that cooked chicken portions could be contaminated from raw chickens. On completion of these investigations, and when the food handlers were free from infection, cooking and sale of chicken portions was allowed to recommence on 6th September, 1968.

As well as the food handlers, several members of their families were found to be positive to Salmonella Montivideo. All persons affected were treated by their family doctors.

In all 268 specimens were submitted for laboratory examination and 48 persons in Swindon were infected. Four persons continued to excrete Salmonella Montivideo in spite of several courses of treatment, but all were reported negative by the 22nd November, 1968.

SOURCE

The origin of the raw chicken at the time of the first outbreak is in doubt. The chickens are coded according to producer, but no note of this is kept at the branches. This branch receives its supplies from the main depot at Yate, which in turn receives supplies from Golden Produce, Lymington; Buckstead Chicken Company, Aldershot; Sun Valley, Hereford; and seven other small firms, including local establishments.

It is understood that the Winchester branch receives its supplies from a local source and not from the depot supplying Swindon. The only contact between Swindon and Winchester was Mr. E., Regional Sales Manager, who was stated to have had diarrhoea prior to the outbreak. It is understood that he was negative for Salmonella.

All swabs of raw chicken taken by us were negative. A positive Salmonella Montivideo was isolated from a raw chicken in Winchester. It is possible that this organism was imported in chicken feeding stuffs.

CONCLUSION

Considering that the shop in which this outbreak originated cooks some 400 chickens per week, and if all the 1600 portions of cold chicken were infected, the potential danger from this one source is alarming.

As compared with most other cooked food, cold chicken presents a particular hazard, and in view of the findings here, the prohibition of its sale would appear to be justified.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

No action was necessary under Section 47 in order to remove to suitable premises a person in need of care and attention during 1968.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - SECTION 50

This section requires the Local Authority to arrange for the burial of persons who have died in its area when it appears that no arrangements are being or have been made. During 1968, 5 burials were arranged.

NURSING HOMES

At the end of the year there was 1 registered nursing home in the Borough, which provided accommodation of 33 beds, mainly for aged and chronically ill people.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

Medical examinations were carried out during the course of the year in connection with new appointments to the Corporation staff, entrants to Training Colleges, newly appointed teachers and other staff appointed by the Education Committee. During 1968, 556 medical examinations were carried out.

HEALTH EDUCATION

The staff of the Health and Welfare Department are urged to regard every contact with the public as a potential opportunity for Health Education.

Centrally inspired publicity disseminated through mass media of communication may have a profound effect upon public attitudes but the ideal of health educator is still the known and trusted person of first contact, the family doctor, the district nurse, the health visitor, the school medical officer.

During the year, twenty talks were given in schools, over eighty talks were given to groups of nursing mothers, five classes were held for expectant mothers and fifteen talks were given to other groups of people, in addition to a great many informal talks during routine examination sessions.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

PERSONAL

HEALTH SERVICES

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The Ambulance Service in the Borough is provided by Wiltshire County Council.

HEALTH CENTRE

The dental laboratory which is staffed by one technician in charge and two senior technicians, continues to be administered by Swindon Health and Welfare Department.

The general practitioner suites are occupied by eight practices comprising fourteen doctors.

Details of the issues of nursing appliances from the medical loan depot are given later in this report.

<u>Pharmacy</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>
Number of prescriptions dispensed	120,372	129,115
<u>Dental Laboratory</u>		
Dentures and Appliances	1,080	1,056
Repairs and Relines	172	186

CHIROPODY

At the beginning of the year the department was under pressure because the staff of two full time chiropodists, one part-time and a chiropody assistant were unable to accommodate all those in the priority category who had applied for treatment. A waiting list had to be created.

In the early spring and summer both the second and part-time chiropodists left, and their vacancies were still unfilled at the end of the year. The lack of applicants may well have been due to the national shortage of state registered chiropodists, and also to the higher remuneration available in private practice. So far repeated advertisements have failed to produce applicants.

The consequence of this was that treatment for the 151 patients most recently taken on had to be discontinued. Those fortunate enough to remain under treatment had the interval between appointments lengthened. In the case of domiciliary patients (no domiciliary or physically handicapped patient was put back on the waiting list) the period between treatment was approximately three months, and sometimes longer. Though unsatisfactory, this was the only way by which treatment could be extended to so many people.

	Borough of Swindon		Hospital Board	
	1968	1967	1968	1967
Number of patients treated	641	743	74	67
Patients under treatment on 31st December 1968	518	712	67	60
Treatments given (including re-dressings)	3,746	5,221	587	567
Domiciliary treatments (included in above)	363	362	-	-
Number of patients on waiting list	277	93	-	-
Number of domiciliary patients on waiting list (included in above total)	25	-	-	-

CARE OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND THEIR CHILDREN

Total number of girls admitted to Mother and Baby Homes	-	25
Total for whom we accepted responsibility	-	5

MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR LONG-STAY IMMIGRANTS

	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>
Notices received	54	48
Successfully contacted	53	38
Untraceable	1	6

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Care of Premature Infants

Premature baby units are maintained at Kingshill Maternity Hospital and Wroughton P.A.R.A.F. Hospital. Where a premature baby born at home appears to require the services of the unit, both mother and baby are admitted. The Ambulance Station is equipped with a portable incubator for the transport of these babies to Hospital.

	Domiciliary Confinements		Hospital or Nursing Home Confinements	
	1968	1967	1968	1967
Number of Premature babies born	11	7	115	120
Number who died during first 24 hours	-	-	11	12
Other deaths during the first month	1	-	6	4
Babies surviving at end of one month	14	7	98	104

It will be seen that of the 126 premature babies born during the year, 18 did not survive the first month of life, and of these, 11 died within 24 hours of birth.

Infant Welfare Clinics

Details of the Infant Welfare Clinics held and the attendances at each throughout the year are recorded in the table given below:

Centre	Day and Time 2 - 4.30 p.m.	Number of consultations with doctor	Number of Attendances
61 Eastcott Hill	Wednesday and Friday	1635	4985
Beech Avenue, Pinehurst	Tuesday	697	2161
Gorse Hill	Wednesday	828	2286
Moredon Road	Monday	979	3028
Bath Road	Friday	614	1863
Penhill	Tuesday	887	3391
Priory Road, Park South	Tuesday and Thursday	1232	5154
Common Room, Walcot	Monday	708	2093
Rodbourne Road	Thursday	478	1803
TOTAL - All Centres		8058	26764

WELFARE FOODS

Welfare foods are distributed at all Child Welfare Clinics and at the Health Centre. Proprietary foods are available at the Child Welfare Clinics but not at the Health Centre.

Welfare Foods	Health Centre Issues		Clinic Issues	
National Dried Milk	2742 tins	(4355)	3009	(3822)
Cod Liver Oil	345 bottles	(333)	970	(1102)
Vitamin Tablets	361 packets	(466)	445	(565)
Orange Juice	3246 bottles	(5586)	9001	(10062)

Figures in brackets - 1967 Issues

PROPRIETARY FOOD SALES

Articles		Number Sold
Infant Welfare Foods (Dried Milk)	Packets or tins	23013
Baby Cereal	Packets	2112
Weaning Foods (Meat, Fruit, Vegetables, etc.)	Tins	3334
Nutrients (Vitamin C Syrup)	Bottles	3307

During 1968, 31,766 sales of proprietary food realising
£4,553 15s. 3d. were made.

During 1967, 31,786 sales of proprietary food realising
£4,612 10s. 6d. were made.

DENTAL SERVICE FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND CHILDREN
UNDER 5 YEARS

ATTENDANCES AND TREATMENT

Number of Visits for Treatment during year	Children 0-4 (incl.)	Expectant and Nursing Mothers
First Visit	101	5
Subsequent Visits	141	4
Total Visits	242	9
Number of Additional Courses of Treatment other than the First Course commenced during year	3	-
Treatment provided during the year -		
Number of Fillings	228	12
Teeth filled	215	11
Teeth Extracted	57	5
General Anaesthetics given	17	-
Emergency Visits by Patients	43	3
Patients X-Rayed	1	1
Patients Treated by Scaling and/or Removal of Stains from the teeth (Prophylaxis)	7	2
Teeth otherwise conserved	46	-
Teeth root filled	-	-
Inlays	-	-
Crowns	-	-
Number of Courses of Treatment Completed during the Year	76	3

Prosthetics

Patients supplied with full upper or full lower (First Time)	-
Patients supplied with other Dentures	-
Number of Dentures supplied	-

Anaesthetics

General Anaesthetics administered by Dental Officers	-
---	---

Inspections

Number of Patients given First Inspections During Year	194	10
Number of Patients above who required Treatment	112	6
Number of Patients above who were offered Treatment	107	7

NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS REGULATION ACT, 1948

During 1968, 2 child minders and 2 day nurseries were registered. The total number of day nurseries and child minders registered is now 19, providing places for 499 children.

During the year 53 visits were made to day nurseries and child minders.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS

Births in the Authority's area during the year (as notified under Section 203 of the Public Health Act 1936, or Section 255 of the Public Health (London) Act 1936) were as follows:

	Live Births Adjusted	Stillbirths Adjusted	Totals
(a) Domiciliary	280	-	280
(b) Institutional	1324	30	1354
(c) Total	1604	30	1634

MIDWIFERY

Work of the Domiciliary Midwives

During the year, domiciliary midwives attended 280 births. All midwives are qualified to administer analgesics, and 5 midwives are approved as teachers of pupil midwives. 20 pupil midwives from Swindon Maternity Hospital completed their district training during 1968.

In conjunction with health visitors, domiciliary midwives held mothercraft and relaxation classes at Bath Road and Priory Road Clinics, which were attended by 14 expectant mothers. Most of the classes are now held at the hospital.

Emergency Maternity Services

Arrangements are in force for the services of an emergency team of doctors and nurses from the Swindon Maternity Hospital, with the necessary equipment to attend complicated cases occurring in the district. All cases requiring emergency admission to hospital during 1968 were admitted.

Refresher Courses

1 Midwife attended an approved refresher course during the year.

Medical Aid Forms from Midwives

No. of medical helps - 22

	Number of Deliveries attended by Midwives in the Area during the Year			
	Domiciliary Cases		Totals	Cases in Institutions
	Doctor not booked	Doctor booked		
Midwives employed by the Authority	8	273	281	-
Midwives employed by hospital management committees or Board of Governors under the National Health Service Act	-	-	-	2554

MATERNITY SERVICES

The trend for more babies to be born in hospital and fewer at home continued during the year. Domiciliary births number 281, 90 fewer than in 1967.

Most of the domiciliary midwives' work is now taken up dealing with mothers who have been discharged from hospital up to seven days after delivery and in ante-natal work with the general practitioners to whom they are attached.

During the year one midwife left the service because she felt the work had so diminished that she was under-employed and another midwife retired. These midwives have not been replaced but one does part-time work for us.

The General Practitioner Maternity Unit which it was hoped to establish in Victoria Hospital has been postponed because of lack of finance. It is hoped, however, that funds will soon be available and that when established the Unit will only employ domiciliary midwives for deliveries there. This would give back to the domiciliary midwives their "job satisfaction" and it may even be necessary to recruit others to fill the vacancies in the establishment.

Owing to the fall in domiciliary births it has been impossible for the pupil midwives to get all the deliveries to complete their schedule of training. To compensate for this their training now includes a wide range of visits to Local Authority Establishments.

The "At Risk" Register

The "At Risk" register was created in 1963 and is intended to provide a note of children who for a variety of physical and social reasons are considered to be more liable to the hazards of life than other children.

During 1968, three hundred and sixty children were placed on the register for the following reasons.

Family history	48
Prenatal (mostly toxæmia)	175
Perinatal	40
Premature	74
Congenital abnormalities	21
Social	2
	<hr/>
TOTAL	360
	<hr/>

During 1968, seventy-eight children were taken off the register and at the end of the year the total number remaining on it was 698.

Family Planning

The National Health Service (Family Planning) Act of 1967 conferred upon Local Health Authorities the power to arrange for :-

- (i) the giving of advice on contraception
- (ii) the examination of persons advised
- (iii) the supply of contraceptive devices

These powers are extended to cover the provision of these services on social as well as purely medical grounds, thus departing from the principal (prevention of illness) implicit in Sec. 28 of the N.H.S. Act, 1946.

Local authorities are empowered to recover expenses in accord with means, and net expenditure qualifies for increased rate support grant.

In common with most authorities the Borough continues to delegate the actual operation of this service to the Family Planning Association who have accumulated considerable experience of its running, and support is given to the Association in the form of financial aid, and the provision of premises.

During 1968, the Family Planning Association provided 251 clinic sessions at which doctors were in attendance, 211 at Bath Road and 40 at Priory Road Clinic.

Patients attending - 652 new patients
2,656 patients returned for follow up
33% of new patients were referred by
General Practitioners
Age range of new patients was mainly 20
to 24 years

Treatment Offered - 50% of new patients were offered oral
contraceptives
24% were offered diaphragms
16% intra-uterine devices
10% were advised and offered other methods.

Other Facilities - 1,070 Cervical smears were taken during
examinations.

The Simon Population Trust

This organisation began operation (again with premises supplied by the Local Authority) in February 1968, and runs two clinics weekly at 81 Bath Road, for primary (male) sterilisation.

During the year 252 such operations were performed.

CERVICAL CYTOLOGY

The table below gives the age groups of women who attended the cervical cytology clinic during the year.

Under 25	...	90
25 - 29	...	188
30 - 34	...	154
35 - 39	...	117
40 - 44	...	82
45 - 49	...	61
50 - 54	...	36
55 - 59	...	21
60 - 64	...	8
65+	...	2
TOTAL		<hr/> 759 <hr/>

No. referred for clinical biopsy	1
No referred to their doctors for treatment	59

HEALTH VISITING

The position at the end of the year was that we had seven whole time Health Visitor/School Nurses, two part-time and four part-time Clinic Nurses. One pupil was in training and she is due to complete this in 1969.

During the year all our advertisements for health visitors met with no response whatsoever. The staff in post is wholly inadequate to meet the basic requirements of health visiting and only allows a very limited service to selected cases. Until we can recruit staff there appears to be little hope of establishing any scheme of attachment of health visitors to general practitioners.

Visits Paid by Health Visitors during 1968

Expectant Mothers	-
Children under 1 year	4610 (including 1565 first visits)
Children between 1 - 5 years	3871
Other visits	608
Total Visits for 1968	9089
" " " 1967	13686
"No reply" visits paid	1435

DISTRICT NURSES

It will be noted that during the year the district nurses paid 24,043 visits an increase of 2,277 over last year. Part of this increase has resulted from a greater number of cases from hospital referred to the district nurses instead of the patients returning to hospital for dressings, removal of stitches, etc.

As far as possible the district nurses are supplied with modern disposable equipment which makes for quicker and more efficient treatment.

During the year one district nurse attended a refresher course.

HOME NURSING

The following table summarises the number and type of cases to which the domiciliary nurses were called during the year.

	No. of cases
Respiratory diseases (excluding tuberculosis) ...	64
Digestive diseases	63
Heart disease	47
Circulatory diseases	198
Genito-urinary disease	228
Skin	151
Ear, Eye and other sense organs	37
Cancer	46
Cerebral lesions of vascular origin	58
Infections and parasitic disease	5
Diabetes	30
Injuries	34
Tuberculosis.	8
Bones, joints and movements (mainly rheumatism) ...	54
Pregnancy	35
Mental and other nervous diseases	7
Other diseases or ill defined	140
	<hr/>
	1205
	<hr/>

in respect of which 24,043 visits were made.

Incontinence Pads

Incontinence pads continue to be supplied to all who need them and their disposal in polythene sacks is arranged by the Cleansing Department. The number issued during the year was 4,900.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

	Under 1 Year	1 - 4 Years	5 - 14 Years	15 years and over	TOTAL
Primary Vaccination	20	939	63	86	1108
Re-Vaccination	-	19	39	266	324
TOTALS	20	958	102	352	1432

POLIOMYELITIS IMMUNISATION - 1968

Primary Immunisation

Number of persons who have completed Primary Courses -
under 16 years of age

Born in	1968	1967	1966	1965	1961/4	Others under 16	TOTAL
Salk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sabin	583	728	57	27	66	21	1482
<u>Reinforcing Doses - under 16</u>							
Salk	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Sabin	-	158	490	37	1216	54	1955

Number of persons who have received 3 or more doses of
poliomyelitis vaccine - 49,375

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS - 1968

	Local Health Authority <u>1968</u>	General Practitioner <u>1968</u>
<u>Diphtheria alone:</u>		
Number of children who have completed primary course	-	-
Number of children given boosters	2	1
<u>Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus combined:</u>		
Number of children who have completed primary course	910	464
Number of children given boosters	560	354
<u>Diphtheria and Tetanus combined:</u>		
Number of children who have completed primary course	32	20
Number of children given boosters	782	440
<u>Tetanus alone:</u>		
Number of persons who have completed primary course	4	413
Number of persons given boosters	15	374
	<u>2305</u>	<u>2066</u>
<u>MEASLES IMMUNISATION (commenced May 1968)</u>		
Number of children immunised	630	670

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE

- | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------|
| (1) Tuberculosis |) | Reports under these |
| (2) Mental Health |) | headings are made in |
| (3) Immunisation |) | the relevant sections |
| (4) Provision of Medical Loan Appliances |) | of this report. |

4 convalescent or recuperative holidays were provided during 1968.

MEALS ON WHEELS

The W.R.V.S. continues to provide a Meals on Wheels service, and during 1968, 8,073 meals were supplied to Swindon residents and approximately 735 meals were provided at the Day Club.

LAUNDRY SERVICE

An average of 72 old and infirm people benefit from the cheap laundry service provided by a local laundry on the recommendation of this department.

CARE OF THE ELDERLY

It is estimated that there are about 12,000 old people in Swindon. During 1968 a survey of old people was undertaken in conjunction with the Old People's Welfare Committee and the Community Services Committee of the Borough Council.

Some of the findings of this Survey are as follows :-

Number of elderly people	...	...	...	...	9,696*
Number of dwellings in the Survey	...	...	...	...	28,147
Number of aged living alone	...	...	...	...	2,098*
Number of aged in need of physical help	...	...	...	...	896*
Number of aged housebound	...	...	...	...	1,406*

*The report states that these figures are not a perfect reflection of the actual situation but are estimated to be 85% accurate.

A survey of this kind could not hope to include all the old people in the town and it is obvious that all the above figures are less than the actual. They do, however, indicate the magnitude of the problem of the care of the aged.

As stated in previous years, more and more of the resources of the Health and Welfare Department are being devoted to the care of the aged. The hospital geriatric departments are increasing the return of

old people from hospital to their homes, and all these need supportive services.

The Geriatrician at St. Margaret's Hospital is constantly pleading with me to supply more home helps to ease the pressure on his hospital beds. The home helps are available if we could afford to employ them. It is in a situation such as this that one could appreciate one authority dealing with both these services so that priorities could be studied and the available finance spent to the best advantage.

Further development of the day hospital for the aged is expected soon and each person attending the day hospital will require home help when at home. It is hoped, therefore, that finances will become available to meet this need. As things stand 91% of our available home help time is devoted to the aged.

As well as the statutory officers such as health visitors, district nurses, and welfare officers, a great number of voluntary bodies devote much of their time to helping the aged in many ways. In this matter the Swindon Old People's Committee continues to provide valuable street visiting for the old people. It is encouraging, too, to find that many young people including senior school pupils are taking a great interest in the welfare of the aged.

During the year another home for the aged was opened by a voluntary society at Springfield House. Here 15 self-contained flats are provided for old persons who are able to look after themselves.

The Hermitage, which is run through the Mayor's Helping Hand Fund continues to provide a most valuable short stay home and during the year it provided for 124 persons.

The Meals on Wheels service which is run by the W.R.V.S. is still limited in the number of meals it can provide by reason of shortage of kitchen accommodation. Ten meals per day were provided to this service from Whitbourne House.

It is hoped, however, that in the coming year new kitchen premises will be provided for the W.R.V.S., which should allow considerable expansion of the meals on wheels service and also provide a day and dining club for the aged. The dining club at Craven House continues to provide for an average of twenty old people each Monday. Dining Clubs are also run at St. Peter's Church, Penhill, and St. Andrew's Church, Moreton.

The housing facilities provided by the Council for elderly people remains as at last year and comprises :

- 2 group dwellings providing 25 flats each
- 293 old people's bungalows
- 44 purpose built flats

1344 two bedroom flats
521 one bedroom flats
18 bedsitters

There are at present 35 old people's bungalows under construction.

HOME HELP SERVICE

153 home helps were employed - 24 worked whole-time and 129 part-time.

A summary of the work of the Home Help Service during the year is as follows:

Number of home helps available at the end of the year 153 (154)

Number of householders helped during the year:

(a) Maternity cases	29	(32)
(b) Other cases	835	(717)
Total	864	(749)

Number of hours of assistance provided during the year:

(a) Maternity cases	1,512	(1,782)
(b) Other cases	169,208	(153,577)
Total	170,720	(155,359)

Number of cases in which full fee was not charged	765	(663)
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Number of hours lost during the year through staff sickness	11,959	(8,709)
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(figures for 1967 are given in brackets)

MEDICAL LOAN APPLIANCES

A large range of nursing and invalid aid appliances is maintained at the Health Centre and is available on loan when required. A small loan charge is levied for such appliances.

Appliance	Number issued on Payment (New Issues)	Number Issued on Free Loan (New Issues)
Bed Pans	307	1
Waterproof Sheets	64	-
Plastic Disposable Sheets	266	6
Air Rings	58	1
Bed Rests	55	1
Invalid Chairs	105	-
Urinals	63	-
Bed Cradles	17	-
Sick Feeders	5	-
Crutches (Pairs)	30	-
Bed Hoists	2	-
Commodes	23	1
Walking Sticks	25	-
Walking Aids	19	-
Enuresis Alarms	14	-
Bed Tables	1	-
Bedsteads (Hospital Type)	1	-
Dunlopillo Mattresses	2	1
Helping Hand	2	-
Gutherie Smith Chair	-	-

Hire payments received for appliances during the year ended 31.12.68.

£256 14s. 2d.

Hire payments received for appliances during the year ended 31.12.67.

£242 3s. 4d.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

During the year under review discussions took place between Dr. C. D. L. Lycett, County Medical Officer of Health, Dr. E.B.O. Smith, Chairman of Swindon and Cirencester Area Department of Psychological Medicine, and myself, on the problems encountered in integrating the Hospital and Local Authority Services in Seymour Clinic. Agreement was reached in principle that for a trial period of one year Local Authority and Hospital Staff, as far as possible, should be fully integrated, and that following the appointment of a second Consultant Psychiatrist in October, 1968, the catchment area of the Seymour Clinic should be served by two Clinical-Social teams, each headed by a Consultant Psychiatrist. It was agreed that Dr. Smith should submit proposals for the integration of medical and social records on a joint common usage basis, and the Wilts County Council and Borough Mental Welfare Officers should combine for the purpose of maintaining the twenty-four hour duty rota. This would ensure that team representative Mental Welfare Officers were on duty when the respective Hospital Clinical team is committed, thereby ensuring continuity of social worker as well as medical care. During the discussions Dr. Smith emphasised that an immediate increase in the number of Mental Welfare Officers employed by the Borough was a matter of paramount importance if the full benefit of these arrangements were to be realised.

Mental Welfare Officers have been duly allocated to their respective teams and are working on a fully integrated basis, attending ward rounds, daily planning and case conferences.

Statistics reveal a slight overall decrease in the amount of work carried out by the department. This is largely due to the fact that there has been no increase in the establishment of Mental Welfare Officers and no one to do the work of the trainees while they attended their University courses. There is also the change in the pattern of work which has occurred with the mental welfare officers working within the two-team structure. The statistics relating to the number of cases referred to the Local Health Authority during the year are compiled in accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Health and do not take into consideration an "integrated service". It is often difficult to decide whether a patient is a Local Health Authority referral or a hospital one, so much of the work undertaken by the department is not recorded statistically.

Hospital admissions effected by mental welfare officers show a further reduction in number, but the incidence of compulsory admission to hospital remains high, especially when one considers that in 1959 before the inception of the Mental Health Act of 1959 the ratio was 10.41% as opposed to 33.33% for this year.

It is interesting to note that the statistics do not show an increase in the number of cases referred by "Hospitals". This situation stems from the fact that Consultants are reluctant to refer "After-care" cases to mental welfare officers because they realise that owing to pressure of work they are unable to cope with them.

It is noted too that there is a decrease in the number of patients referred by the general practitioners to the mental welfare officers. The reason is that since the inception of the Seymour Clinic patients referred there are, unless otherwise specified, put on the waiting list to see a psychiatrist. In the past most patients were referred directly to the mental welfare officers by the general practitioner and frequently they were able to resolve the difficulties between them and in many instances the patient did not then require to see the psychiatrist. This made for "job satisfaction" with the Mental Welfare Officers, and for close liaison with the general practitioners. It is hoped that this problem will be discussed with the hospital authorities in the near future.

The pressure of work with mentally ill patients has of necessity restricted the visiting of the mentally sub-normal. However, with the development of Burderop Hospital and the personal contact with the Medical Director and the Nursing and Administrative staff, it has been possible to arrange many admissions, including short-term care. Already arrangements are in hand for patients to be admitted on a "programmed" basis, which will greatly alleviate the strain on families who have to care for a sub-normal person. I would like to express to the Medical Director and his staff my appreciation of their help in relation to emergency admissions and for their co-operation in other matters.

The staff has been further depleted by one of the Mental Welfare Officers commencing the two-year Social Work Course at the Bristol College of Commerce on 16th September, where one Trainee Officer is already in her second year.

The work of the mental welfare officers is handicapped by the lack of Hostels for the mentally disordered within the Borough. Added to the difficulties of finding employment for them is the almost impossible task of finding suitable living accommodation.

THE CHALET - Special Care Unit for Subnormal Persons

Fortunately no difficulties have been encountered in recruiting staff, and throughout the year we had a full complement. Miss Jenkinson continued to give her services voluntarily, and "school" is now an established institution.

The children were seen at frequent intervals by a doctor of the department and periodic assessments of progress were made.

Twenty-five children attended throughout the year; two were transferred during the summer term to the Junior Training Centre at Upham Road, and two were admitted from the waiting list. All the children on the waiting list were visited at home by a medical officer of the department.

Summary of work of Mental Welfare Officers during 1968

Home Visits	..	..	..	4101
Office Interviews	..	..	..	780

HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS

Year	Informal		Sec. 25		Sec. 26		Sec. 29		Sec. 60		Total		Grand Total	Incidence of Compulsion
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
1968	72	132	24	36	4	7	13	16	2	0	115	191	306	33.33%
1967	82	144	30	58	7	5	8	9	4	0	131	216	347	34.8%

CASES REFERRED FOR ACTION

Referred by	Mental Illness		Psycho-pathic		Sub-Normal		Severely Subnormal		Total	
	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968
General Practitioners	271	228	0	0	0	7	0	0	271	235
Hospitals, on discharge from I.P. treatment	36	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	36	35
Hospitals, after or during O.P. treatment	154	148	0	0	0	0	0	0	154	148
Local Education Authority	0	0	0	0	1	6	0	3	1	9
Police and Courts	37	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	18
Other Sources	294	211	0	0	10	4	1	2	305	217
									TOTAL	804 662

WELFARE SERVICES

I give below a short report on the Welfare Services delegated to the Borough of Swindon.

Staff

During the year the following changes in staff occurred:

Mrs. I. M. Phillips was appointed as All-Purpose Welfare Officer on 4th March 1968.

Mr. A. R. W. Doubleday was seconded to the Bristol College of Commerce, by Wiltshire County Council, for a two year course in Social Work, commencing September 1968.

Mr. M. J. Tuckwell returned from the Bristol College of Commerce as a qualified Welfare Officer in July 1968.

Miss M. Burt was appointed by Wiltshire County Council as Trainee Social Welfare Officer and seconded to the Swindon Area Office, commencing September 1968.

Handicapped Persons (other than Blind, Deaf and Deaf without Speech and Hard of Hearing)

Number on Register at 31st December 1968 - 383

Visiting - Due to the increase in staff, all registered handicapped persons were visited at least every three months during the year. This regular visiting has resulted in my Welfare Officers being able to concentrate on the more pressing problems encountered in this type of work.

"Outwork" is always difficult to find in this area, but through the good offices of Miss Millson, my Occupational Therapist, a well known firm in Malmesbury is now providing a regular supply of mixed rubber bands to be sorted into various sizes. This work has been given to a number of homebound handicapped and is proving quite profitable to them.

The Handicraft Instructress under the guidance of Miss Millson, Occupational Therapist, has continued to teach home crafts during the year, as well as helping with "Outwork". It is hoped to start an Occupation Centre at Whitbourne House early in 1969 when a number of handicapped people will be invited to attend the Centre, Monday to Friday, from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m., working on such projects as sorting rubber bands, packing fingerstalls, etc. In return for this work each handicapped person will receive approximately 30/- per week and consequently any Social Security Benefit entitlement will not be affected.

Housing - Several structural alterations to homes of severely disabled persons have been carried out during the year, in co-operation with the Corporation Works Department.

Owing to new registrations more disabled persons are now eligible for powered Invalid carriages and as existing houses have not always easy access for garages, the Housing Manager has been approached on several occasions with a view to rehousing such persons to make garage provision and adaptations practical.

The Welfare Department has provided on numerous occasions, gadgets and aids to enable the handicapped to live as independently as possible at home.

Handicapped Centres - On 2nd January 1968, it was decided that the Handicapped Persons' Centre held at Moose Hall was to be closed and consequently members attending this Centre were transferred to the new Handicapped Persons' Social Centre attached to the Home for the Elderly, Whitbourne House, Whitbourne Avenue, Park South, Swindon.

The number of handicapped persons attending this Centre has now reached such proportions that in the near future it is envisaged that this Centre will have to be split into two separate Centres. However, as always, one realises voluntary workers do keep these Centres running and it is proving difficult to find the necessary voluntary workers for this type of work.

The Assessment Kitchen at Whitbourne House has been used on several occasions by Welfare Officers and Miss Millsom, Occupational Therapist, for assessing the capabilities of disabled housewives managing household chores.

The Handicapped Persons' Centre was approached on two separate occasions during the year, with a request to provide a mechanical hoist and an electric typewriter. These items were required for two severely homebound handicapped persons. Without hesitation, the Committee agreed to provide the money towards the purchase of these items.

Social Activities - In addition to the weekly meetings, held on Tuesday afternoons, the following social activities were provided during the year:

3 outings, including 2 half-days

24 handicapped persons were provided with a week's holiday at Westward Ho Holiday Centre, Devon.

The venue for the 1969 Handicapped Persons' holiday has now been altered to Weston-Super-Mare and should be held in the Autumn instead of the Spring, as in previous years.

160 handicapped persons and helpers attended the Annual County Rally for the Handicapped, held at Monkton Park, Chippenham, in July.

An Annual Bazaar held in November, attended by the Mayor and Mayoress of Swindon was held at the Church Hall, Devizes Road. The proceeds of approximately £400 going towards the purchase of a new handicapped persons' bus.

Other social activities included film shows, Bingo, Concerts - both drama and musical, talks, and an Easter Carol Service, and Christmas Party.

The Newsheet, "Endeavour" issued quarterly, has proved a great success and is now circulated to all areas in the County of Wiltshire, as well as to places as far away as Somerset. This Newsheet is now a combined effort by the Handicapped Persons' Centre, Swindon and the Handicapped Persons' Centre at Purton.

I would like to place on record my thanks to the Editor-in-Chief, Mr. T. Kershaw, himself a handicapped person.

Handicapped Persons' Bus - Several meetings have been held during 1968 regarding the purchase of a replacement bus for the "Triumph". Mr. Bardsley, the Swindon Corporation Transport Manager, very kindly spoke to the Committee in the Autumn of 1968, and pointed out that in these difficult financial times it was practically impossible to purchase a very good secondhand bus. He recommended that the Centre continue to collect funds towards the purchase of a new bus, and in the meantime he would investigate every possibility for the purchase of a secondhand bus.

Following this meeting, the Centre Committee agreed to the repainting and re-upholstering of the "Triumph" at a cost of £143 - this money being paid entirely out of Centre Funds.

Once again I would like to place on record my grateful thanks to the voluntary helpers at the Handicapped Persons' Centre, and to the Swindon Borough Transport Department for their co-operation in providing drivers for the bus each week, and finally the Library Service provided by the Borough Council during 1968, when some 6,500 library books were loaned to the members of the Social Centre.

BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED

Number of Blind on Register at 31st December 1968 - 277

Number of Partially Sighted on Register at 31st December 1968 - 59

Visiting - Owing to the shortage of qualified Home Teachers for the Blind, only three quarters of the Blind and Partially Sighted have been visited during 1968. All these visits have been carried out by unqualified staff.

Mrs. F. Cross, continues to study for her Home Teacher's Examination and it is hoped she will be successful in obtaining her Diploma in June 1969.

All Officers who visited blind and partially sighted in the Borough gave advice on ways and means of overcoming their disability and the usual aids to daily living and the Statutory Services were supplied.

There still remains only one homemaker in the Borough of Swindon, but out-work is being supplied to three homebound registered blind persons and Miss Millsom is handling this work.

The Tuesday handicraft class held at Craven House, Victoria Road, continues to be very well attended and many articles made by blind persons attending this Centre were put on sale at the Annual Pressed Steel Sports Day.

In co-operation with the Swindon Branch of the Wiltshire Association for the Care of the Blind, the Wednesday Social continues to be held and the Annual Tea held in April was attended by some 100 blind and partially sighted persons.

On Thursday afternoon of each week a number of blind persons attend a Games Club where whist, dominoes, draughts and cribbage are practised in readiness for the County Games Tournament, and County Championship held in the Spring and Autumn. This Games Club is now run entirely by the blind people themselves, thus relieving Welfare Officers for other duties.

Social Activities - In addition to the three weekly Centres mentioned above, the following social activities were provided during the year:

1 full day's outing to Exmouth

100 blind and partially sighted attended the County Rally held at Lydiard Park in June.

Carol Service

Approximately 30 blind persons and guides were provided with a week's holiday at Southbourne in May and another party with a week's holiday at Paignton, Devon, in September.

The Christmas Dinner held at the Co-operative Hall, was attended by over 100 guests. This meal was provided by the Swindon Branch of the Wiltshire Association for the Care of the Blind.

The Coronation Cup Games - Hampshire and Wiltshire sharing the Cup - it is interesting to note that the Wiltshire team included three players from Swindon Borough.

The Bristol Guild of Blind Gardeners. Wiltshire being the Cup winners and the Silver Jubilee Trophy being awarded to the partially sighted. Numerous entries being accepted from Swindon Borough.

DEAF, DEAF WITHOUT SPEECH AND HARD OF HEARING

Number of Deaf on Register at 31st December 1968 - 26

Number of Deaf without Speech at 31st December 1968 - 18

Number of Hard of Hearing on Register at 31st December 1968 - 71

Mr. B. Chivers, Welfare Officer for the Deaf, resigned his post in June 1968. This left the County of Wiltshire without any qualified officer dealing exclusively with the deaf. Consequently the work of visiting and advising the deaf population of Swindon has once again fallen on the shoulders of Welfare Officers who are not accustomed to this type of specialist work. However, it is to their credit that with very few exceptions the deaf population has been kept fairly happy and most of the problems dealt with satisfactorily.

Social Activities - A small number of deaf persons and their families meet at Whitbourne House Social Centre, the first and third Saturday in every month for games and social activities. This Centre is organised by the Swindon and District Deaf Association whose local secretary is Mr. Savory.

In addition on the third Sunday of every month there is a Church of England Service held at Whitbourne House, which is taken either by the Bristol Chaplain to the Deaf or a Lay Reader from Salisbury.

A deaf children's party was held in January. A visit to the Trowbridge Deaf Centre was made in June.

The Local Committee of the Swindon and District Deaf Association has given valuable assistance during the year in interpreting in the absence of a qualified Welfare Officer and I would like to place on record my grateful thanks for their valuable assistance.

ENTERPRISE WORKS

On the recommendation of the industrialists who formed the Works Advisory Committee the Committee was split into two divisions to include Works Managers. Now the Executive Committee which meets quarterly includes the works managers and the Management Committee consists of the works managers and meets monthly.

This arrangement has proved most successful in that the flow of work from the various industries represented in the Committees increased and this is reflected in the income which rose from 57% of the running costs last year to an average of 67%.

Owing to the increased clerical work involved in this it became necessary to engage a second clerk/typist. In this we were fortunate to recruit a disabled girl who, although confined to a wheel chair, is proving most satisfactory.

The attachment of senior apprentices from four large industries continued and a fifth industry, namely Vickers Ltd., now is included in the scheme. All the apprentices who have so far spent three months at Enterprise Works have expressed their interest and satisfaction in the scheme and we feel sure this interest in the handicapped will remain with them in their future careers.

To speed production and save labour costs a second more powerful fork lift truck was purchased and to facilitate its use an extension ramp was constructed. For the same reason a low loading hand truck was purchased. The benefit of the acquisition of this equipment is reflected in the higher production.

During the year several industries supplied us with certain machine tools such as drilling machines, bench presses and projection welding machines. This gave a broader scope for contract work, added to the production rate and made for a wider variety of interest to the employees.

It is now obvious that the present premises are becoming overcrowded and are incapable of housing more employees or machines. A case for larger premises is being placed before the Borough Council and the County Council. In larger premises we can employ more handicapped persons and a wider variety of machine tools will enable us to increase production still further.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

I am indebted to Mr. R. A. Law, the Chief Public Health Inspector, for the information in this section of the report.

STAFF

The following staff changes occurred during the year:

Mr. J. S. Tallis, full-time Meat Inspector, left the service of the Corporation on 1st June 1968.

Mr. R. D. Winter, District Public Health Inspector, left the service on 16th August 1968.

Mr. E. Pullen, Technical Assistant, left the service on 27th December 1968.

Mr. L. D. Young, Trainee Meat Inspector, was successful in obtaining the qualification for Authorised Meat Inspector and was appointed Meat Inspector as from 19th June 1968.

The under-mentioned posts remained unfilled at the close of the year:

- 1 Public Health Inspector (Full-time Meat)
- 2 District Public Health Inspectors
- 2 Technical Assistants
- 1 Trainee Meat Inspector

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Although staff shortages again hampered a concentrated drive on the inspection of all catering and food premises, every effort was made during the year to maintain, as far as possible, routine inspections under the Food and Drugs Act and Food Hygiene Regulations. Despite the fact that at most of our food premises good standards of hygiene are being achieved, these standards can rapidly decline unless regular inspections are made. Visits under the Act and Regulations totalled 1,379 during the year, including inspections made at registered premises, and revisits. During the course of these visits, 458 infringements of the Food Hygiene Regulations were noted. Resulting from these infringements, 72 warning letters or verbal notices were issued. It is pleasing to report that due to good co-operation on the part of the traders, 320 contraventions had been rectified by the end of the year.

Itinerant food vendors also came under review and resulting from the higher standards which came into force in 1967 much improvement has

been noted in this form of food trading. During the year 33 vehicles were inspected under the Regulations and 79 matters were satisfactorily dealt with. Under the provisions of the Swindon Corporation Act, 1947, a food hawker wishing to operate in the borough, other than a person keeping open shop, must first register with the Local Authority. At the end of the year there were 49 hawkers registered under these provisions.

Unfortunately there is no compulsory registration of food hawkers vehicles, it frequently happens that registered hawkers do not notify the department when they change vehicles and consequently delay can occur before the new vehicle is inspected.

No legal proceedings were taken for contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations during the year.

Elsewhere in the report the Medical Officer of Health will have reported on a food poisoning outbreak which occurred. This outbreak was thoroughly investigated and the necessary action taken to prevent the spread of infection. Resulting from this incident a total of 523 visits were made and 268 specimens submitted to the Pathological Laboratory, Princess Margaret Hospital, for testing. Particular attention was directed towards clean food handling and to improving the personal factor in food hygiene at the premises concerned. Due to prompt action taken by the department, the incident was confined to the one shop, and apart from those persons initially affected and their family contacts, other members of the public were not involved.

FOOD COMPLAINTS

103 consumer complaints were received regarding the sale of unsound or unsatisfactory food; this was a slight increase on the number dealt with during 1967. 13 complaints were in respect of milk supplied to schools. Most of these concerned milk derived from a dairyman whose premises are situated outside the borough. Over the past 6 years there has been a continuing pattern of unsatisfactory milk supplied from this particular source. Despite repeated cautions and numerous prosecutions over a long period very little noticeable improvement was attained. During the year one prosecution was taken against this dairyman for supplying milk to a Swindon school containing foreign matter for which he was fined £25 and £5 5s. Od. costs.

Other complaints dealt with included 19 concerning the sale of food in a mouldy condition and 43 in respect of the presence of foreign matter. Of the latter complaints two were in respect of pastry products contaminated by surgical dressings which had been baked in the products.

18 successful prosecutions were taken during the year and fines and costs totalling £397 19s. Od. were imposed.

SAMPLING

170 samples of various foodstuffs were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical examination under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act. With one exception the 30 formal and 8 informal milk samples which were analysed were found to be entirely satisfactory and complied with the legal standard. The one unsatisfactory milk sample was in respect of the school milk containing foreign matter.

Of the 6 samples of food submitted following consumer complaints 4 were reported on adversely by the Analyst (see table on samples submitted) one sample of tea and one of evaporated milk were found to be satisfactory.

One routine informal sample of curry powder was reported by the Public Analyst to be unsatisfactory and it was recommended that a formal follow-up sample should be obtained. However, this was not possible as the commodity was found to be out of stock when the Sampling Officer revisited the premises.

MILK

The testing of bulk supplies of raw milk (from farmers before pasteurisation and untreated milk retailed by dairy farmers) for the presence of antibiotics continued during the year. Of the 150 samples tested 32 were shown to contain traces of Penicillin or other antibiotics. In each instance where antibiotics were found the farmer was warned of the necessity to reject milk from cows which had recently been treated with the substance.

Subsequent follow-up samples taken from the farmers concerned were found to be entirely satisfactory.

144 samples of raw and untreated milk were examined for the presence of Brucellosis; of these 34 were reported positive on the Brucella Ring Test but all were found to be entirely satisfactory on subsequent culture examinations.

112 samples of Pasteurised milk, 9 of Pasteurised Homogenised, 20 Sterilised, 1 Ultra High Temperature (U.H.T.) and 11 of Untreated Milk (for retail by dairy farmers) were submitted to the Pathological Laboratory, Princess Margaret Hospital, for examination. One sample of Pasteurised milk failed both the Phosphatase and Methylene Blue Tests and a further 29 samples failed the Methylene Blue Test. Three samples of Untreated milk also failed the Methylene Blue Test. The remaining samples were satisfactory.

135 samples of raw milk and 9 of untreated milk were submitted to the Pathological Laboratory, for biological examination and all were found to be free from tubercle bacilli.

ICE-CREAM

22 samples of ice-cream procured from shops and mobile ice-cream vendors were submitted to the Pathological Laboratory for bacteriological examination. All were found to be of a satisfactory bacteriological quality, 17 samples being placed in Grade 1 and 5 in Grade 2.

The 3 samples of ice-cream submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical examination were also satisfactory and complied with the Food Standards (Ice-cream) Regulations.

During the course of routine visits, 14 premises which were registered for the sale of ice-cream were found to be no longer used for the purpose and the registrations were therefore deleted from the records.

4 new registrations for the sale of ice-cream were approved during the year, leaving a total of 316 premises recorded in the register.

MEAT INSPECTION

A high percentage of Inspector's time was again taken up in fulfilling our obligations on meat inspection at the Corporation Abattoir.

It is pleasing to report that 100% inspection was maintained throughout the year when a total of 82,838 animals were slaughtered and inspected. This was a considerable increase on the 72,035 animals slaughtered in 1967.

There was a corresponding increase in the amount of unsound meat and offal condemned; the total weight being 114 tons compared with $96\frac{3}{4}$ tons in the previous year.

All condemned meat and offal from the Abattoir is disposed of to a processor whose premises are outside the Borough.

The incidence of Tuberculosis in cows showed a marked decrease during 1968, only 3 of the cows slaughtered showing evidence of the disease. This represents 0.08% of the total killed compared with 0.37% in 1967. There was also a decrease in the incidence of Cysticercus Bovis in cattle. 73 were found to be affected with a localised condition of the disease compared with 111 in 1967, i.e. 0.56% of this year's kill compared with 0.79% last year.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

Only one licence remains in force under this Order where the boiling of waste foods for feeding to animals and poultry is carried

out. Regular inspections were made at these premises throughout the year and they were always found to be satisfactory.

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

A total of 4,470 complaints, applications and requests were received and dealt with, 2,223 inspections and 2,676 revisits were made under the Acts, including 932 visits and 989 revisits to dwelling-houses as a result of complaints.

Informal action resulted in 324 houses being repaired and/or renovated and one statutory notice under Section 92 of the Public Health Act, 1936, was served requiring the abatement of a nuisance. This notice was complied with by the owner before the close of the year.

One statutory notice under Section 17 of the Public Health Act, 1961, was served requiring the clearance of an obstructed drain and this notice was also complied with and the drain subsequently re-laid by the owner of the premises concerned.

The one remaining outstanding statutory notice from 1967 was complied with by the owner without the need for further statutory action.

78 houses were inspected and recorded under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1957, as being unfit for human habitation. Closing Orders were made in respect of 22 houses; undertakings by the owners of 8 of the unfit dwellings to carry out the necessary works of repair within a period of twelve months were accepted by the Local Authority and the remaining 49 houses were dealt with by informal action.

3 houses which had been the subject of Closing Orders from previous years were made fit to the Council's satisfaction and the Orders were consequently revoked.

One Certificate of Fitness under Section 69 of the Act was issued in respect of one dwelling.

95 families involving 249 persons were displaced from unfit houses during the year and 30 unfit houses were demolished.

HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

79 visits and revisits were made to houses known to be in multiple occupation, 20 of these properties were found to be below a satisfactory standard. Seven properties were found to be lacking in adequate facilities and two were without suitable means of escape from fire. Notices were served on the owners of the properties requiring the necessary works to be carried out.

OVERCROWDING

At the commencement of the year there were 8 overcrowded premises affecting 50 persons and 8 families outstanding on the books of the department. Three new cases affecting 21 persons and three families were found during the twelve months and five cases involving 23 persons and five families were abated, leaving six cases affecting 49 persons and 6 families outstanding at the end of the year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered common lodging houses in the borough.

DRAINAGE WORK

Drainage work carried out in the borough under the supervision of the Public Health Inspectors necessitated 1,118 visits and revisits and 590 drain tests. Drains were either repaired, overhauled or renewed at 264 dwellings and 33 business premises and new bathrooms were installed at 163 domestic premises, 90 other houses were fitted with additional toilets or washing facilities under the supervision of the department.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Applications were received for approval of plans in connection with the height of three new chimneys. These were considered and after suitable amendments had been agreed approval was given to the height of the proposed chimneys.

Notifications under Section 3 of the Clean Air Act of intention to install furnaces were received in respect of 8 boilers. The installations complied with the appropriate provisions of the Act and Regulations and were approved.

13 smoke observations were made in connection with smoke emissions from various industrial chimneys. No contraventions of the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations, 1958 were recorded. No legal proceedings were instituted under the Act during the year.

51 visits were made as a result of complaints received regarding alleged smoke nuisances. Many of these complaints were again found to be due to the indiscriminate burning of garden and other refuse in close proximity to other houses. After giving advice on alternative methods of disposing of refuse matter these complaints were dealt with satisfactorily.

New Regulations designed to reduce air pollution by grit and dust emissions from boiler and furnace chimneys came into force on 1st May, 1968. These Regulations enable Local Authorities to require the provision of apparatus for the making and recording of measurements

of grit and dust from certain industrial furnaces and the supply to the local authority of the results obtained from the measurements.

It is recognised that the necessary apparatus and the adaption of chimneys for the purpose of taking such measurements is time consuming and could be very costly. The Minister of Housing and Local Government makes it clear to local authorities that such measurements should only be required where they will serve a clearly definable purpose. It is envisaged that only those emissions thought to be causing or contributing to excessive pollution in the neighbourhood should be tested and even then only after first establishing and being satisfied that the plant itself is of proper design, efficiently operated and well maintained and that any shortcomings which may exist have been rectified. No major problems concerning grit and dust from industrial chimneys were encountered during the year.

Measurements for concentrations of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the air were continued at three local sites. Daily measurements using combined smoke filter - volumetric sulphur dioxide apparatus, at Ferndale Road, Walcot and Euclid Street, were recorded and the concentrations at each site followed a similar pattern to previous years. The highest level of concentrations were recorded during the winter months when the monthly average of smoke reached a level of 79.0 micro grammes per cubic metre. These higher level concentrations can be attributed to the greater use of domestic appliances during the winter period burning bituminous coal. There was no noticeable increase during the year in pollutants emitted from industry.

The average monthly recordings at the three sites are shown in the table in the report.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Following last year's publicity regarding unsatisfactory filling materials found in certain imported dolls, four dolls imported from China were procured and submitted for examination to the prescribed Analyst. However, on examination these dolls were found to be entirely satisfactory and reported as complying with the standard laid down by the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Regulations, 1961.

Eight informal samples of other filling materials were submitted to the Analyst and these were found to be entirely satisfactory.

Five licences to store rag flock were renewed during the year and the premises where rag flock was stored were inspected and found to be satisfactory.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

A total of 34 complaints of noise nuisance were received and dealt with during the year. Of these, 10 were in respect of excessive noise

from industrial establishments, 17 concerned unnecessary noise from dwelling-houses and 7 from commercial premises. In all, 67 visits were made in connection with these complaints and, once again, noise caused by barking dogs, radio and television sets, the banging of car doors late at night and the unreasonable volume of noise created by musical instruments accounted for a high proportion of the complaints received. Most of this type of annoyance could be avoided by a little more forethought and co-operation on the part of neighbours and the general public.

No legal proceedings were instituted under this Act during 1968.

DISINFECTION

There was a considerable increase in the amount of disinfecting carried out by the Department compared with previous years. 20602 articles were dealt with excluding bedding from hospitals, compared with 14,944 items last year.

1,510 articles of hospital bedding were disinfected by the department on behalf of the Hospital Management Committee.

113 rooms were disinfected after illness or death.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

During the course of the year the department was called upon to deal with some 33 major infestations of mice. These infestations occurred mostly at business premises, including premises where there had been a history of infestation and re-infestation over a long period. Despite prolonged eradication measures carried out using Warfarin anti-coagulant poison baits the infestations proved extremely persistent and the mouse colonies failed to succumb to the treatment. It became apparent that the mice were probably resistant to the poison.

This problem has been encountered in other parts of the country. In these circumstances the continued use of Warfarin could result in a spread of resistance throughout the colonies and consequently alternative methods of control must be employed.

The Regional Pest Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was kept informed and eventually the infestations were eliminated by the use of acute poisons, which unfortunately are more difficult to use and are much more dangerous to other animals.

At the close of the year the records of the department showed that a total of 4,204 visits were made under the provisions of the Act. Inspections were made at 523 properties or sites as a result of complaints received but only 397 of these premises were actually found to be infested, this number included 39 major infestations of either rats or mice.

191 block surveys involving 458 dwellings, 76 business premises, 7 local authority premises, and 32 unclassified sites, were made and a further 130 infestations were discovered during the course of these surveys. Of these infestations 3 were found to be of a major character.

430 treatments for the eradication of rodents were completed, including re-treatments where necessary.

Disinfestation for rats or mice was completed at 104 business premises at a total cost of £4205s. Od. which amount is recoverable from the occupiers of the premises concerned.

It was found necessary to serve 138 notices requiring structural repairs etc. and 152 notices including a number outstanding from 1967, were complied with by the end of the year. No notices requiring occupiers of premises to carry out eradication measures were necessary.

Test baiting for the presence of rats in the Corporation's sewers was carried out during the early part of the year. From the results obtained two treatments were undertaken and a total of 849 manholes were baited.

To ensure success of the treatments, all manholes showing evidence of rats are baited until no further evidence of infestation can be found. In this way the rat population in the sewers is kept at a reasonably low level.

INSPECTIONS AND REVISITS - 1968

PREMISES	Primary Inspections	Revisits
<u>PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936</u>		
Dwelling houses on complaint	839	937
Dwelling houses - no nuisance found	69	32
Other premises	231	238
Stables and piggeries	2	4
Theatres and cinemas	24	5
Licensed premises	15	4
Public sanitary conveniences	5	2
Verminous premises	24	20
Infectious disease enquiries	191	400
Drainage work under supervision	394	724
<u>CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956</u>		
Dwelling houses inspected	17	3
Factories and other premises inspected	20	11
Smoke observations carried out	13	-
Volumetric readings	510	3
<u>HOUSING ACT, 1957</u>		
Dwelling houses	317	256
Houses inspected and recorded	29	1
Overcrowding	5	3
Houses let in multiple occupation	29	50
<u>RENT ACT, 1957</u>		
Dwelling houses	-	-
<u>FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955</u>		
Bakehouses	14	1
Butchers' shops	47	16
Dairies	11	3
Fish shops and fish friers	58	13
Food preparation and storage premises	132	43
Food shops/premises	379	139
Travelling shops/food delivery vans (other than registered hawkers' vehicles)	45	84
Ice-cream premises	20	8
Licensed premises	37	35
Markets and food stalls	78	1
Restaurants, cafes, canteens etc.	50	23
Slaughterhouse	1427	-
<u>FACTORIES ACT, 1961</u>		
Mechanical factories	49	22
Non-mechanical factories	3	4
Building sites	2	-
Outworkers	25	-
carried forward	5111	3085

PREMISES in connection with:-	Primary Inspections	Revisits
Brought forward	5111	3085
<u>AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH & WELFARE PROVISIONS)</u>		
<u>ACT, 1956</u>	-	-
<u>ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963</u>	6	3
<u>CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960</u>	12	9
<u>DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957</u>	4	1
<u>NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948</u>	13	4
<u>NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960</u>	36	31
<u>PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951</u>	4	-
<u>PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949</u>	369	838
<u>RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951</u>	5	5
<u>RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963</u>	2	5
<u>SWINDON CORPORATION ACT, 1947</u> - Hawkers' Vehicles/premises	11	69
<u>SWINDON CORPORATION ACT, 1951</u> - Hairdressers' premises	15	-
<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>	2231	697
	<u>7819</u>	<u>4747</u>
<u>SAMPLING</u>		
Food - Bacteriological	27	
Food and Drugs - Chemical	133	
Ice-Cream - Methylene Blue Test	22	
Milk - Biological	144	
Milk - Brucella Ring Test	144	
Milk - Chemical	38	
Milk - Phosphatase/Methylene Blue Test	133	
Milk - Turbidity Test	20	
Milk - Ultra High Temperature (U.H.T.) Test	1	
Milk - Presence of Antibiotics	150	
Rag Flock - Prescribed test	9	
Water - Bacteriological	16	
Water - Chemical	9	
Water from swimming baths, paddling pools etc.	43	
Miscellaneous samples other than food	13	
	<u>902</u>	

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 and HOUSING ACT, 1957

NUISANCES ABATED AND HOUSING DEFECTS REMEDIED

Defective ceilings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Defective walls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	180
Damp walls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	140
Dirty rooms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective floors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Defective skirting boards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Defective firegrates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Defective windows	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Defective doors and/or door frames	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Defective stairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Defective sinks and/or sink waste pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
New sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
Water services provided and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective chimneys	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Defective roofs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Defective eavesgutters and/or rain water pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Defective yard/forecourt paving	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Defective water closets repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
New pedestal pans fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	151
Defective flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
New flushing cisterns fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	144
Additional water closets provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	79
Choked drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	82
Drains; repaired, relaid or new	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	297
Inspection chambers repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	225
Gullies repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	313
Soil vent pipes repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	74
Drains tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	590
New baths provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	163
New lavatory basins provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	173
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Food stores provided or ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Provision of adequate natural lighting	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Provision of adequate hot and cold water supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Rent books made to comply with the Housing Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	64
								3100

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

LIST OF PREMISES SUBJECT TO FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

Premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of Sausages, or Potted, Pressed, Pickled or Preserved Food	103
Premises registered for the manufacture, sale or storage of ice-cream	316
Wholesale Grocery/Confectionery premises	4
General Food Shops	260
Bakehouses	12
Bakers' and Confectioners' premises	50
Restaurants, Cafes, Snack Bars etc.	61
Works Canteens	28
School Meals Premises	53
Wholesale Greengrocery/Fruiterers' premises	8
Greengrocers, Fruiterers premises	56
Wholesale Meat Stores	1
Butchers' Shops	67
Wholesale Fish Depots	1
Fishmongers' and Fish Friers' premises	34
Licensed Hotels and Public Houses	64
Retail Wine and Spirit premises (including Off Licences) ...	41
Licensed Clubs	37
Chemists and Drug Stores	23
Mineral Water Works and Wholesale Depots	2
Wholesale Ice-Cream Depots	3
Travelling Shop Warehouses	3
Pie-making Factories	2
Sausage Skin Factory	1
Sweet Factories	2
Retail Faggot and Pie Shops	3
Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Homes for the Blind and Elderly ...	9
Private Hotels and Boarding Houses	11
	<hr/>
	1255
	<hr/>

Regulations 16 and 19 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, which require the provision of personal hand washing facilities for the use of persons engaged in the handling of food and the provision of suitable and sufficient sinks for the washing of food and equipment used in the food business, apply to all premises in each category listed above.

During the course of the year it was found that 17 wash hand basins and 9 sinks were required by way of replacement or in connection with new food businesses and the attention of the occupiers of the premises concerned was drawn to these matters. By the end of the year 10 fittings had been installed and the remainder were receiving attention.

INFRINGEMENTS OF THE FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960
REMEDIED DURING 1968

Unsatisfactory fixtures and fittings	...	...	...	21
Unclean or unsatisfactory equipment	...	...	...	15
Protection from contamination	...	...	...	9
Food placed lower than 18" from the ground	...	...		1
Smoking and taking snuff	...	...	...	3
Unsatisfactory drainage	...	...	...	2
Unsatisfactory sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	14
Absence of notice requesting washing of hands			...	6
" " wash basins	...	...	...	7
" " hot or cold water to wash basins	...	...		9
" " soap/nailbrushes	...	...	...	5
" " towels or other suitable drying facilities				4
" " first aid equipment	...	...	...	5
" " accommodation for clothing not worn during working hours				3
" " sufficient sinks	...	...	...	3
" " hot and cold water to sinks	...	...	...	2
" " soap or detergents for sinks			...	1
" " clean wiping cloths	...	...	...	1
Unsatisfactory lighting/ventilation	...	...	...	6
Defective/unclean ceilings	...	...	...	32
" " walls	...	...	...	51
" " windows	...	...	...	16
" " doors	...	...	...	16
" " woodwork	...	...	...	22
" " floors	...	...	...	37
Unsatisfactory protection against rodents/birds/insects				1
Accumulations	...	...	...	12
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	16

INFRINGEMENTS OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT (MARKETS, STALLS & DELIVERY
VEHICLES) REGULATIONS, 1966 - REMEDIED DURING 1968

Unsatisfactory fixtures and fittings	...	...	...	...	...	3
Unclean and unsatisfactory stalls or vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	1
Unclean and unsatisfactory equipment	...	...	...	...	...	2
Inadequate protection of food containers	...	...	...	...	...	1
Inadequate protection of food	...	...	...	...	...	3
Unsound food not separated from other food	...	...	...	...	...	1
Use of tobacco or snuff	...	...	...	...	...	1
Absence of clean overalls/head covering	...	...	...	...	...	3
Unsatisfactory carriage or wrapping	...	...	...	...	...	1
Unsatisfactory temperature of food for immediate consumption	...	...	...	...	...	2
Absence of name and address on stall or vehicle	...	...	...	...	...	7
Absence of wash basin	...	...	...	...	...	8
Inadequate controlled hot water to wash basin	...	...	...	...	...	8
Absence of soap/nailbrush/clean towels	...	...	...	...	...	8
Inadequate first aid materials	...	...	...	...	...	7
Absence of suitable sinks	...	...	...	...	...	4
Inadequate hot and cold water to sink	...	...	...	...	...	4
Absence of soap/detergent/clean cloths for sinks	...	...	...	...	...	4
Unsatisfactory lighting at stalls	...	...	...	...	...	3
Absence of covering of sides and backs of stalls or vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	2
Absence of covered receptacle for waste and trimmings	...	...	...	...	...	6

SAMPLES SUBMITTED TO THE PUBLIC ANALYST FOR CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

Commodity	Formal	Informal	Genuine	Not Genuine
Beers	8	-	8	-
Brandy	1	-	1	-
Butter Beans	-	1	1	-
Cereals etc.	-	5	5	-
Cheese	-	9	9	-
Cheese Spreads	-	4	4	-
Chocolate, plain	-	1	1	-
Curry Powders & Pastes	-	8	7	1 (a)
Evaporated Milk (complaint)	-	1	1	-
Faggots	-	3	3	-
Gin	1	-	1	-
Ground Almonds	-	6	6	-
Ice-cream	-	3	3	-
Jams	-	2	2	-
Jusoda Orange Crush (complaints)	-	2	-	2 (b) & (c)
Lentils	-	1	1	-
Macaroni	-	2	2	-
Marmalade Oranges	-	1	1	-
Marzipan	-	6	6	-
Meat Pies/Patties	-	5	5	-
Milk (including 1 complaint)	30	8	37	1 (d)
Mince Pie (complaint)	-	1	-	1 (e)
Rice, Sago & Tapioca	-	11	11	-
Rum	2	-	2	-
Sausages, Beef	-	6	6	-
Sausages, Pork	-	1	1	-
Sausage Rolls	-	3	3	-
Sherry	1	-	1	-
Soft drinks	-	10	10	-
Soya Flour	-	1	1	-
Sweets - various	-	19	19	-
Tea (complaint)	-	1	1	-
Vodka	1	-	1	-
Whisky	5	-	5	-
	49	121	165	5

(a) This was a routine informal sample of curry powder. It was reported by the Public Analyst to be damp, mouldy and unfit for human consumption. It was not possible to obtain a formal follow-up sample as the commodity was out of stock at the retailers.

- (b) This sample of Orange Crush was submitted for analysis following a complaint that the drink tasted of petrol. The Public Analyst reported that the top of the bottle was contaminated by the cap which had a paraffinic odour and he considered the sample to be adulterated. Legal proceedings were taken. The manufacturer was fined £10 and £5 5s. Od. costs.
- (c) The second sample of Orange Crush was sent to the Public Analyst as a result of a complaint that the drink tasted of disinfectant. The Public Analyst reported that the 1.5 p.p.m. phenols present rendered the product unsuitable for human consumption and hence was adulterated. Legal proceedings were taken and the manufacturer was fined £10 and £5 5s. Od. costs.
- (d) This sample was a $\frac{1}{2}$ pint bottle of school milk alleged to contain foreign matter. The Public Analyst reported that the milk was adulterated due to the presence of a piece of vegetable tissue resembling a clove stalk. Legal proceedings were taken against the dairyman. A fine of £25 and £5 5s. Od. costs was imposed.
- (e) The Public Analyst reported that a piece of surgical dressing resembling Elastoplast was found adhering to the upper and lower inner crusts of the mince pie and that the object had been cooked in the pie. Legal proceedings were taken. The manufacturer was fined £25 and £5 5s. Od. costs.

MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1959

No. of Registered Dairies at the close of the year 3
No. of Registered Distributors at the close of the year 72

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS, 1960/63

LICENCES IN FORCE ISSUED BY THE SWINDON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Dealers' (Pasteurisers) Licences 1
Dealers' (Pre-Packed Milk) Licences 112

SAMPLES OF MILK SUBMITTED FOR EXAMINATION TO THE PATHOLOGICAL
LABORATORY, PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL, OKUS ROAD, SWINDON, DURING, 1968

(a) For Bacteriological examination

DESIGNATION	No. of samples taken	Entirely Satisfac- tory	Failed the: Phosphatase test	Methylene Blue test
Pasteurised	91	65	1	26
Pasteurised, Channel Island	21	19	-	2
Pasteurised, Homogenised	9	7	-	2
Ultra High Temperature (U.H.T.)	1	1	-	-
Untreated (Retailled by dairy farmers)	11	8	-	3
Sterilised (Turbidity Test)	20	20	-	-

(b) For Biological Examination

DESIGNATION	No. of samples taken	Negative	Positive
Raw Milk	135	135	-
Untreated Milk	9	9	-

(c) For Brucella Ring Test

DESIGNATION	No. of samples taken	Negative	Positive
Raw Milk	135	103	32
Untreated Milk	9	7	2

(d) For the Presence of Antibiotics

DESIGNATION	No. of samples taken	No. in which antibiotics were detected	No. in which <u>no</u> antibiotics were detected
Raw Milk	141	28	113
Untreated Milk	9	4	5

ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1959

Samples of ice-cream submitted for Bacteriological examination to the Pathological Laboratory, Princess Margaret Hospital, Okus Road, Swindon.

	FROM MOBILE VANS				FROM PREMISES			
	No. taken	Placed in Grade 1	Placed in Grade 2	Placed in 3 or 4	No. taken	Placed in Grade 1	Placed in Grade 2	Placed in 3 or 4
Soft Ice-cream	6	5	1	0	1	1	0	0
Other Ice-cream	3	1	2	0	12	10	2	0

OTHER FOOD SAMPLES SUBMITTED TO THE PATHOLOGICAL LABORATORY, PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL, FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

6 canned pork loins
27 chickens

LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS, 1963

There are no egg pasteurisation plants situated within the borough. No samples of liquid egg were submitted for the Alpha-Amylase test during the year.

POULTRY INSPECTION

There are no poultry processing premises within the borough.

SWIMMING BATHS (see table on opposite page)

No change was made in the facilities available at Milton Road Baths.

At Coate Water, a new mobile toilet unit was installed, with main sewer connection, replacing the old 'privy' type toilet facilities for the swimming pool.

DETAILS OF SWIMMING BATH WATERS SUBMITTED FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL
AND/OR CHEMICAL EXAMINATIONS

BATH WATER SAMPLED	Number of samples taken with results			
	BACTERIOLOGICAL		CHEMICAL	
	No. taken	Results	No. taken	Results
Small Bath, Milton/ Faringdon Roads	4	Coliform count - satisfactory. Faecal coli per 100 mls. absent in all samples	2	Reported by Public Analyst to be satisfactory for swimming bath water
Large Bath, Milton/ Faringdon Roads	4	Ditto	2	Ditto
Open air Bath Coate Water	2	Ditto	2	Ditto
Children's Paddling Pool Coate Water	2	Ditto	2	Ditto
Park North Swimming Pool	3	Ditto	3	Ditto
Children's Paddling Pool Penhill Amenity Area	1	Ditto	1	Ditto
Swimming Bath, Penhill School	11	9 samples satisfactory, 1 sample, Coliform count 70, faecal coli per 100 mls. 70. 1 sample, Coliform count 550, faecal coli per 100 mls. 170	4	2 samples satisfac- tory, 1 sample, excess chlorine could be irritating to bathers. 1 sample, cloudiness due to some algae.
Open air Bath at Sevenfields School	2	2 samples satisfactory	1	1 sample, the high pH throwing some dissolved solids out of solution

MEAT INSPECTION REGULATIONS, 1963-66

The following table shows the number of carcasses inspected during 1968 and the incidence of Tuberculosis and Cysticercus.

	Cattle				Sheep & Lambs
	Cows	Others	Calves	Pigs	
TOTAL KILLED AND INSPECTED	3391	9499	2168	47052	20728
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS & CYSTICERCOSIS					
Whole carcasses condemned	117	13	108	379	159
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1989	2888	18	8686	3459
Approximate percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis or Cysticercosis	62.1	30.54	5.81	19.26	17.45
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	3	-	1393	-
Approximate percentage of number affected with Tuberculosis	0.08	0.03	-	2.96	-
CYSTICERCUS ONLY					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	12	61	-	-	-
Approximate percentage of number affected with Cysticercus	0.35	0.64	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	12	61	-	-	-

UN SOUND FOOD CONDEMNED BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS DURING 1968

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Unsound meat and offal (Abattoir)	114	1	3	1
Unsound food from other establishments	10	18	2	24
TOTAL	125	0	1	25

Unsound meat and offal from the Abattoir are sold for processing and animal feeding. Other unsound food is destroyed at Rodbourne Tip.

PERCENTAGE OF CATTLE AND PIG CARCASSES FOUND
TO BE AFFECTED WITH TUBERCULOSIS, 1961-1968

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Cows	2.21	1.1	0.46	0.83	0.49	0.28	0.37	0.08
Other cattle	1.07	0.78	0.52	1.7	0.19	0.10	0.09	0.03
Pigs	2.2	2.5	1.5	1.9	2.1	2.4	2.8	2.96
Calves	0.005	0.029	0.021	0.04	NIL	0.026	NIL	NIL

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

1. The following table gives details of inspections carried out during the year:

PREMISES	No. on Register	Inspections	No. of written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	16	7	2	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	248	71	17	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	72	2	1	-
TOTALS	336	80	20	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	1	1	-	1	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	33	24	-	5	-
(c) not separate for sexes	2	2	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers)	6	4	-	-	-
TOTAL	42	31	-	6	-

OUTWORK (Sections 133 and 134)

Number of Outworkers at August, 1968:

Making of wearing apparel	=	73
Making of curtains and furniture hangings	=	2
Making of furniture and upholstery	=	2
Making of paper, cardboard, etc.	=	9

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Inspections and revisits made during the year:

<u>Type of Property</u>				<u>Public Health Inspectors'</u> <u>Inspections</u>	<u>Revisits</u>
Local Authority	...	...	...	12	11
Dwelling-houses	...	...	...	233	242
Business etc.	...	...	...	122	584
Agricultural	...	...	...	-	-
Unclassified sites	...	...	...	2	1
				<u>369</u>	<u>838</u>

<u>Type of Property</u>				<u>Rodent Operatives'</u> <u>Inspections</u>	<u>Revisits</u>
Local Authority	...	...	...	23	55
Dwelling-houses	...	...	...	835	1064
Business etc.	...	...	...	207	751
Agricultural	...	...	...	-	-
Unclassified sites	...	...	...	36	26
				<u>1101</u>	<u>1896</u>
Sewer Manholes	...	...	...	541	797

No. of infested properties baited during 1968:

<u>Type of Property</u>	<u>Number</u>
Local Authority	29
Dwelling-houses	518
Business etc.	233
Sites	17

Total number of Block Surveys carried out	191
" " " Sewer defects found	184

Informal Notices given to remedy defects

Local Authority	30
Dwelling-houses	75
Business etc.	33

DISINFESTATION OF VERMINOUS PREMISES AND BEDDING ETC.

Rooms disinfested in Council owned property	...	...	...	...	413
Rooms disinfested in other property	...	...	...	...	273
Verminous bedding disinfested	...	...	...	...	86
Other articles disinfested	...	...	...	...	15

DISINFECTION AFTER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ETC.

Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	113
Library books	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	68
Miscellaneous articles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20430
Bedding from hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1510
Bedding at or from private premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	104
Bedding destroyed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Other articles destroyed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
WASPS NESTS ETC. DESTROYED	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Premises registered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Premises licensed to store Rag Flock	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Number of Samples procured for Analysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9

SWINDON CORPORATION ACT, 1951

Number of hairdressers and/or barbers on the Register at the close of the year	118
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

SWINDON CORPORATION ACT, 1947 - Section 47

Number of registered hawkers	....	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Number of premises registered as storage accommodation for food	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

MONTHLY CONCENTRATIONS OF SMOKE AND SULPHUR DIOXIDE (S.O.₂)
measured in MICROGRAMMES per CUBIC METRE

1968	Station No. 1 4 Euclid Street		Station No. 2 Ferndale Sec. School		Station No. 3 Walcot Sec. School	
	<u>Smoke</u>	<u>S.O₂</u>	<u>Smoke</u>	<u>S.O₂</u>	<u>Smoke</u>	<u>S.O₂</u>
January	60	133	59	139	46	88
February	64	127	66	131	79	82
March	32	105	35	134	32	111
April	30	85	29	118	19	66
May	22	67	28	91	18	64
June	14	50	10	61	9	25
July	13	37	11	45	11	27
August	13	31	12	42	11	28
September	17	32	12	49	11	34
October	29	57	34	80	21	40
November	47	105	50	113	39	76
December	50	134	64	139	33	79

SEWAGE DISPOSAL 1968

I am indebted to the Borough Surveyor for the following information.

SEWERAGE

The exceptional rainstorm in July caused surcharging of sewers, widespread flooding and some minor damage in the town. Generally the flooding subsided quickly. Several weaknesses in the sewerage system were revealed. Some were quickly dealt with and remedial schemes for the others prepared and approved.

Further sewer reconstruction work was carried out including Regent Street, Westcott Place and Marlborough Road. Sewer surveys by T.V. were carried out. The construction of Princes Street re-drainage was started.

Drove Road relief sewer was constructed. Work was commenced in laying the sewers to serve the redevelopment of the former railway land off Osborne Street. Several sewerage schemes were considered and design work started for further new sewers.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The existing sewage works at Rodbourne is designed to treat flows from 110,000 persons. The contributing population is already over 120,000, but in spite of the overloading the very high effluent quality standards required by Thames Conservancy are being maintained.

Works extensions costing over $\pounds 1\frac{1}{2}$ million are in progress, and will eventually provide for an even better effluent quality, and capacity to deal with 150,000 persons. Any further population increase will necessitate an entirely additional Sewage Treatment Works on another site.

WATER SUPPLY

I am obliged to the Water Engineer for the following information on water supplies.

Throughout 1968, water supplies to all parts of the Borough were satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

Natural fluoride was recorded at the Latton source only, the amount on 9th July being 0.5 p.p.m. and on 17th December 0.65 p.p.m.

Fluoridation of water supplies has been rejected by the Council.

All supplies are high in carbonate hardness and the average pH value is 7.2. The water is free from metals including lead and there is no reason to expect action on lead with water of this character.

TABLE GIVING DETAILS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER SUPPLIES

Sampled by the Health & Welfare Department

Date of Sample	Chlorides	Non Carbonate Hardness	Total Hardness	Nitrate Nitrogen	Nitrite Nitrogen	Ammoniacal Nitrogen	Albuminoid Nitrogen	Oxygen Absorbed
29. 2.68	19	80	320	0.7	0.01	less than 0.005	less than 0.005	0.7
12. 6.68	25	170	246	0.8	less than 0.005	less than 0.005	0.01	4.0
4. 7.68	10	160	285	1.2	less than 0.005	0.015	0.023	0.8
1. 8.68	18	140	320	1.5	0.01	0.008	0.012	0.2
1. 8.68	22	110	230	1.8	less than 0.005	0.011	0.015	0.2
26. 9.68	20	140	295	0.9	0.005	0.012	0.008	0.3
26. 9.68	24	140	300	0.8	less than 0.005	0.009	0.008	0.4
17.10.68	124	120	315	1.2	0.01	0.012	0.009	0.4

These samples were taken from taps supplied from the town's mains in various parts of the borough.

BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER IN 1968

Source	Water	Total No. of samples	Samples in which coliforms were absent in 100 ml.		Samples in which Bac. Coli Type I were absent	
			No.	%	No.	%
Town's Mains						
Domestic Supply						
	Final	16	16	100	16	100

SWINDON CORPORATION WATER DEPARTMENT

Summary of Bacteriological Analyses made in 1968 on Water Samples
Taken at the Water Supply Sources serving the Borough of Swindon

<u>Source</u>	<u>Total No. of Samples</u>	<u>Samples in which Coliforms were absent in 100 ml.</u>		<u>Samples in which E. Coli were absent in 100 ml.</u>	
		<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>
<u>A. Samples taken prior to Chlorination process (raw water)</u>					
Latton	51	51	100	51	100
Ogbourne	96	65	68	92	96
Wroughton	160	37	23	74	46
<u>B. Samples taken after Chlorination process (final water)</u>					
Latton	51	51	100	51	100
Ogbourne	98	98	100	98	100
Wroughton	56	56	100	56	100

SWINDON CORPORATION WATER DEPARTMENT

Chemical Analyses made on Samples of Final Water taken during 1968

at the Sources of Water Supply serving the Borough of Swindon

(parts per million)

Source	Date of Samples	Chlorides	Non Carbonate Hardness	Total Hardness	Nitrate Nitrogen	Nitrite Nitrogen	Ammoniacal Nitrogen	Albuminoid Nitrogen	Oxygen Absorbed
Latton	17. 1.68	24	40	285	0.7	Absent	0.08	0.00	0.1
"	9. 7.68	29	45	300	0.7	Absent	0.03	0.00	0.30
"	17. 12.68	24	45	310	0.6	Absent	0.07	0.00	-
Ogbourne	19. 1.68	14	75	365	6.3	Absent	0.00	0.00	0.20
"	8. 7.68	15	70	360	4.8	Absent	0.10	0.00	0.30
Wroughton	13. 1.68	14	70	375	4.7	Absent	0.00	0.04	0.20
"	10. 7.68	14	70	370	2.7	Absent	0.00	0.00	0.10
"	7. 8.68	13	40	360	3.4	Absent	0.00	0.00	0.10
"	16. 10.68	14	50	375	3.1	Absent	0.00	0.00	0.10

B O R O U G H O F S W I N D O N

E D U C A T I O N C O M M I T T E E

as at 31st December, 1968

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR
(Alderman A. J. Bown, M.B.E.)

Chairman: Councillor J. G. MASON
Vice Chairman: Alderman C. S. MACPHERSON

M E M B E R S

Alderman	A. E. CAMDEN	Councillor	C. EARNSHAW
"	H. W. GARDNER (now deceased)	"	F. J. FURKINS
"	I. W. J. HOMER	"	(Mrs.) B. A. LAY
"	(Mrs.) M. LECKIE	"	J. R. STEVENS
Councillor	M. B. J. BAWDEN	"	(Mrs.) K. M. TOMKINS
"	(Mrs.) C. M. CHRISTIAN	"	W. H. C. TURPIN
"	A. C. G. DURSTON	"	W. J. WILKS
	Brigadier J. D. HAIGH, O.B.E. (resigned 31.12.68.)		
	Mr. F. W. HAWKSWORTH		
	Mr. J. H. S. MOORE (now deceased)		

WILTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MR. J. B. AINSLIE HON. J. M. MANNINGHAM-BULLER
MR. H. J. SMITH

BOROUGH EDUCATION OFFICER

G. W. LABRAM, M.A.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE BOROUGH OF SWINDON

Report of the Principal Borough School Medical Officer, 1968

Staffing in the School Health Service considerably improved during the year, and this is reflected in the increased number of examinations and the higher proportion of routine school medical examinations carried out.

During the year, 4,410 school children were medically examined and 16 were found to be in an unsatisfactory physical condition. 263 children were found to require treatment for defects other than dental defects and infestation with vermin.

Children found to have defects are referred to their own doctors, or with the doctor's consent to the hospital consultant. Minor defects are treated in the school clinics.

Minor ailment clinics are held on 3 mornings a week during school term and on two mornings per week during school holidays. 146 such clinics were held during 1968, and 2,066 children attended.

Infestation with head lice continues to be a problem very difficult of solution. Despite all efforts reinfestation occurs at home and successes tend to be short-lived. School nurses inspected 18,509 children and 352 were found to be verminous. School nurses visited 239 homes and advised on treatment.

During the early part of the year we were unable to recruit a specialist teacher for the partially hearing class in Clarence Street School, and after consultations with the Education Authority and the consultants of the Regional Hospital Board it was decided to transfer 5 pupils of the Partially Hearing Unit to residential schools. 3 others who might have been candidates for the Partially Hearing Unit were admitted directly to residential schools for the deaf. Then in November we were able to recruit a part-time teacher of the deaf for three mornings per week.

In February 1968 a report was prepared on physically handicapped children and proposals were made for a special physically handicapped stream in a normal school. Discussions were held with the Education Department, but in the financial climate obtaining little progress was made. This project will, however, increasingly demand our attention in the future.

There are, attending normal schools, a large and increasing number of children who require some measure of special care, or some protection

from the hurly-burly of normal school life. Some may be in wheel chairs, calipers, or other walking aids, some may need routine medication during the school day, others may need help with dressing and with toilet arrangements. Many will need physiotherapy and remedial exercises in place of the more conventional physical education. Some may need speech therapy, most will require fairly intimate contact with the psychological services and all need teachers sufficiently sympathetic and accustomed to working with physically handicapped children.

Paradoxically increasing sophistication of medical treatment will for many years augment rather than reduce the numbers of such children and it is essential that adequate preparations be made to receive them. In Spina Bifida and congenital cardiac anomalies for example recent surgical techniques greatly raise the survival rate and lengthen the expectation of life without necessarily returning the sufferers to full normality, and more and more of these children are now reaching school age.

Residential schools are expensive, and the absolute separation of parents and children benefits neither. It is an accepted principle that physically handicapped children should, as far as possible, be educated in ordinary schools in order that normal children will grow to accept them, and that they themselves will learn to fit in to a community of normal people. It is felt that this principle could best be served by providing a separate stream for physically handicapped pupils in a normal school.

JAMES URQUHART

Principal Borough School Medical Officer.

Empire House,
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SWINDON.

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT
RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED THE 31st DECEMBER, 1968

Number of pupils on registers of maintained primary and secondary schools (including special schools) as at 31st December, 1968 - 20,065.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED AND ASSISTED
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS)

PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Age Groups inspected (By year of birth)	Number of pupils inspected	Physical condition of pupils inspected		Pupils found to require treatment (excluding dental diseases and infestation with vermin)		
		Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	For defective vision excluding squint	For any other condition recorded	Total indi- vidual pupils
1964 and later	1	1	-	-	-	-
1963	1120	1114	6	35	40	70
1962	1540	1532	8	44	57	81
1961	634	634	-	15	15	30
1960	70	69	1	3	5	4
1959	22	22	-	1	2	2
1958	100	99	1	5	12	11
1957	53	53	-	1	2	2
1956	10	10	-	1	2	1
1955	5	5	-	-	-	-
1954	167	167	-	20	1	20
1953 and earlier	688	688	-	39	5	42
TOTAL	4410	4394	16	164	141	263
1967	2633	2626	7	82	95	164

DEFECTS FOUND BY PERIODIC AND SPECIAL INSPECTIONS
DURING THE YEAR

All defects, including defects of pupils at Special Schools, noted at special and periodic medical inspections are included in this Table, whether or not they were under treatment or observation at the time of inspection.

T = Defect considered to require treatment

O = Defect considered to require observation

Defect or Disease		Periodic Inspections			Total	Special Inspections
		Entrants	Leavers	Others		
Skin	T	10	3	2	15	265
	O	147	35	5	187	85
Eyes a. Vision	T	97	59	8	164	68
	O	397	147	28	572	53
b. Squint	T	20	-	-	20	2
	O	55	4	7	66	-
c. Other	T	1	-	-	1	11
	O	15	4	1	20	1
Ears a. Hearing	T	6	-	-	6	5
	O	84	2	5	91	5
b. Otitis Media	T	3	1	-	4	3
	O	38	3	2	43	1
c. Other	T	1	-	-	1	3
	O	8	4	1	13	-
Nose and Throat	T	8	-	3	11	7
	O	107	9	1	117	3
Speech	T	17	-	2	19	1
	O	90	7	8	105	6
Lymphatic Glands	T	1	-	-	1	-
	O	42	2	-	44	1
Heart	T	10	1	-	11	5
	O	87	13	3	103	14
Lungs	T	2	-	-	2	1
	O	66	12	4	82	20

Defect or Disease		Periodic Inspections			Total	Special Inspections
		Entrants	Leavers	Others		
Developmental -	T	3	-	-	3	1
a. Hernia	O	5	1	1	7	-
b. Other	T	2	-	1	3	4
	O	19	3	-	22	2
Orthopaedic -	T	2	-	1	3	-
a. Posture	O	15	4	1	20	10
b. Feet	T	10	-	2	12	21
	O	154	13	12	179	41
c. Other	T	4	1	2	7	9
	O	67	7	3	77	3
Nervous System -	T	-	-	1	1	-
a. Epilepsy	O	6	2	1	9	1
b. Other	T	-	-	1	1	-
	O	14	4	4	22	-
Psychological -	T	1	-	4	5	-
a. Development	O	59	-	9	68	6
b. Stability	T	3	-	4	7	7
	O	208	1	8	217	9
Abdomen	T	4	-	-	4	3
	O	33	5	-	38	1
Other	T	4	-	-	4	7
	O	21	1	-	22	1

OTHER INSPECTIONS

A special inspection is one that is carried out at the special request of a parent, doctor, teacher, nurse or other person.

A re-inspection is an inspection arising out of one of the periodic medical inspections or out of a special inspection.

	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>
Number of Special Inspections	941	1113
Number of re-inspections	287	308
TOTAL	<u>1228</u>	<u>1421</u>

EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with	
	1968	1967
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	11	17
Errors of refraction including squint	785	838
TOTAL	796	855
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed	446	512

DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

	Number of cases known to have been treated	
	1968	1967
Received operative treatment:		
(a) for diseases of the ear	28	28
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	189	173
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	18	29
Received other forms of treatment	-	2
TOTAL	235	232

It is gratifying to note that at the end of the year there was practically no waiting list of school children for appointments at these hospital departments.

SPEECH THERAPY

The Speech Therapy Clinic at Eastcott Hill has been in operation now since October 1966, with one full time therapist who, unfortunately, resigned on 12th October, 1968.

Work of the Clinic during the year 1968

New referrals	...	...	...	...	...	56
Cases discharged	...	...	...	...	...	33
Case load at 12th October, 1968	...	...	...	...	...	106
Pupils treated during the year	...	...	...	...	...	164
Attendances at the Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	1267
Number of schools visited	...	...	...	...	...	11

Cases are referred to the Clinic by School Medical Officers at routine medical inspection, Infant Welfare Clinics, Minor Ailment Clinics, Head Teachers, Dental Officers and the School Psychological Service. Other cases are selected at screening sessions in school.

Age of Children Treated

Pre-school age	...	...	...	...	...	3%
Infant school age	...	...	...	...	...	35%
Junior school age	...	...	...	...	...	47%
Secondary school age	...	...	...	...	...	15%

Screening sessions were conducted in several schools, revealing a fair proportion of hitherto undiagnosed defects. Group therapy has also been initiated in the treatment of certain long-term disorders as an attempt to offset the continuing staff shortage.

HOSPITAL REFERRALS

						<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>
No. of cases referred to the E.N.T. Consultant						21	36
"	"	"	"	"	" Paediatrician	40	12
"	"	"	"	"	" Orthopaedic Consultant	10	4
"	"	"	"	"	" Dermatologist	11	6
"	"	"	"	"	" Surgical Consultant	14	6

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>
(a) Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by school nurses or other authorised persons	18,500	26,600
(b) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	179	357
(c) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944)	16	33
(d) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944)	NIL	NIL

HYGIENE

Visiting of schools and homes by Health Visitors:

Number of schools inspected	142	160
Number of visits to homes in connection with uncleanliness	135	258

REMEDIAL EXERCISES

During 1968, instruction and supervision in remedial exercises has been given to 182 children who have been referred by the Principal Borough School Medical Officer to the Remedial Gymnast. 39 of these children discontinued exercises as no longer requiring treatment.

The defects fall into the following categories:

(a) Foot defects	96
(b) Postural defects	22
(c) Chest defects where treatment is also given to improve general physique and posture	64
(d) Other defects	6

DISEASES OF THE SKIN

	Number of cases known to have been treated at school clinics	
	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>
Ringworm (a) Scalp	-	-
(b) Body	3	-
Scabies	7	6
Impetigo	-	-
Other Skin Diseases	265	169
TOTAL	275	175

HANDICAPPED PUPILS

The number of handicapped pupils in Swindon found to be in need of special educational treatment during 1968 was 88. These pupils were handicapped as follows:

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
Blind	1	1
Partially Sighted	1	-
Deaf or Partial Hearing	5	8
Educationally sub-normal		
for special schools	54	38
for special educational treatment at ordinary school	20	12
Maladjusted	13	9
Physically Handicapped suitable for Spastic Unit	-	1
Unsuitable for education at school	6	14
Physically handicapped	4	1
Delicate	-	1
Spastic for Residential School	-	1
Suitable for Home Tuition	-	2
	<u>104</u>	<u>88</u>

Number of Swindon pupils attending special schools at 31st December 1968	269
Number of Swindon pupils placed in residential special schools or hostels in 1968	17
Number of Swindon pupils awaiting places in residential special schools or hostels at 31st December 1968	19
Number of handicapped pupils attending the Central School (including 23 Wilts County Council pupils)	122
Number of handicapped pupils attending the Crowdys Hill School (including 20 Wilts County Council and 2 Berkshire County Council pupils)	96

UNIT FOR PARTIALLY HEARING PUPILS

CLARENCE STREET SCHOOL

Five pupils, including one from Wiltshire County Council, continued to attend the unit for partially hearing pupils during 1968.

SPASTIC PARALYSIS UNIT

PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL

Seven children, including two from Wiltshire County Council, of ages ranging from six to sixteen years, attended the unit for education and physiotherapy during 1968. Even this small number places severe demands upon staff and accommodation, and active consideration will have to be given to finding some means of alleviating this situation as well as widening the scope of this service to include other categories of physically handicapped children.

AUDIOMETRY

The Audiometrician attends Swindon one day weekly during school terms in order to test the hearing of children in Infants' Schools.

During 1968, 992 pupils were tested, and 17 found to have subnormal hearing were referred to the Ear, Nose and Throat Consultant for further advice.

PROTECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS

The B.C.G. Vaccination Campaign was again directed at children in the 13 - 14 age group.

Preliminary heaf testing showed that 5.9% were in fact positive reactors. All positive reactors are now referred for Mass Miniature Radiography, and if further investigation appears necessary, are then referred to the Chest Physician.

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
Number of 13 year old children skin tested	1589	1406
Number of negative reactors (i.e. requiring B.C.G. Vaccine)	1268	1323
Number of positive reactors	321	83
Number vaccinated	1238	1308

SCHOOL PREMISES

School premises, including school meals kitchens, are inspected by the Medical Officer at the conclusion of routine medical inspections. Any defects noted are reported to the Education Committee.

OTHER MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
1. Entrants to Training College	73	81
2. Teachers	56	49
3. School Meals Service	124	118
4. Boarded-out children attending schools in the Borough (Children's Act, 1948)	19	13
TOTAL	<u>272</u>	<u>261</u>

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE

The staff during the year consisted of:

- 1 Area Dental Officer -- Eastcott Hill Clinic
- 1 Dental Officer - Priory Road Clinic
- 2 Dental Surgery Assistants

Owing to the resignation of the dental officer at Pinehurst Clinic the number of children treated shows a decrease compared with last year.

Through the help and goodwill of the Swindon and District Hospital Management Committee, and the excellent co-operation of Mr. Thexton, Consultant Dental Surgeon at the Princess Margaret Hospital, those children needing general anaesthesia now attend Princess Margaret Hospital. The anaesthetics are administered by hospital anaesthetists, and the extractions performed by the Area Dental Officer.

The number of cases treated as emergencies is, perhaps, worthy of note in these days of appointments and lengthy waiting lists. These figures show that a child with toothache attends, without an appointment, at almost every session attended by a dental officer.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT
DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1968

Number of pupils on the register of maintained primary and secondary schools (including special schools) in December, 1968 - 20,065
(December, 1967 - 19,686)

<u>Attendances and Treatment</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>
First Visit	1,384	1,911
Subsequent visits	2,492	3,707
Total visits	3,876	5,618
Additional courses of treatment commenced	333	244
Fillings in permanent teeth	2,570	2,432
Fillings in deciduous teeth	1,570	1,729
Permanent teeth filled	2,141	2,574

<u>Attendances and Treatment (cont.)</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>
Deciduous teeth filled	1,502	1,638
Permanent teeth extracted	374	447
Deciduous teeth extracted	1,303	1,247
General Anaesthetics	65	11
Emergencies	655	691
Number of pupils X-Rayed	154	97
Prophylaxis	184	260
Teeth otherwise conserved	103	675
Number of teeth root filled	14	13
Crowns	19	10
Courses of treatment completed	1,503	1,932

Orthodontics

New cases commenced during the year	19	24
Cases completed during the year	10	
Number of removable appliances fitted	26	35
Cases discontinued during the year	1	
Pupils referred to Hospital Consultant	31	70

Prosthetics

Number of dentures supplied	16	11
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Inspections

a. First inspection at school. Number of pupils	1,382	2,320
b. First inspection at clinic. Number of pupils	1,466	2,122
Number of (a) and (b) found to require treatment	1,742	2,629
Number of (a) and (b) offered treatment	1,730	2,571
c. Pupils re-inspected at school clinic	406	526
Number of (c) found to require treatment	240	358

Sessions

Sessions devoted to treatment	623	746
Sessions devoted to inspection	14	8
Sessions devoted to dental health education	4	3

Produced and duplicated by the Health & Welfare Department

